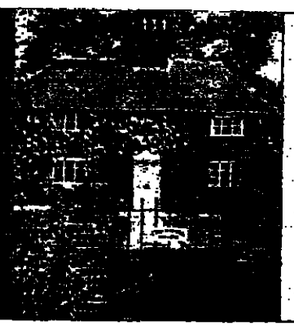
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WEEKEND
The houses that always sell and why we want them
PLUS Nigella Lawson on the must-have book for cooks, page 15



WIN
A weekend at the Cannes film festival
PLUS Free tickets to see Johnny Depp's *Ed Wood*, page 36

30P

THE TIMES

No. 65,266 SATURDAY MAY 13 1995

SERIALS DIVISION

Lamont wants Thatcherite revival

Major sets out on quest for a people's policy

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR last night appealed to the country to help him to build a "people's policy" to win the next election.

Bowing to criticism that the Government has lost touch with its natural supporters, the Prime Minister announced that he and his Cabinet colleagues were to embark on a grand tour to consult Tory activists and the public about the next Conservative manifesto. He wanted to "bridge the gap between the doorsteps of Britain and the corridors of power".

Mr Major insisted that even after 16 years in power, the Government was still "fizzing with ideas" and he pointed to forthcoming announcements on housing, nursery schools and train fares.

But his attempt to fight back after the Tories' mauling in the council elections was clouded by a warning from Norman Lamont that the party was doomed unless it swung decisively to the Right. Only by rediscovering the radicalism of the Thatcher era could it repulse Tony Blair's Labour onslaught.

Mr Lamont, tipped as the man most likely to challenge Mr Major's leadership in the autumn, set out his stall in a speech in Cheltenham a couple of hours after the Prime Minister sat down to the obligatory standing ovation at the Scottish Conservative Party conference in Glasgow.

Mr Lamont said that under present policies the Government could hope to deliver no more than modest tax cuts. Big reductions would require bold policy changes.

"How can taxes be cut? The answer is clear; we can make substantial tax cuts by fundamentally changing what the State does. Cheese-paring will not be enough. Sharing the growth dividend will not be enough. If the State continues to do everything it does today, taxes will not fall significantly.

"We need to look again at the whole issue of what the State does: social security, provision for old age, health and welfare services. We need to look at the scope for more private provision, which means more freedom of choice for the individual," Mr Lamont told the right-wing Freedom Association.

The former Chancellor continued: "The one way of ensuring a Labour victory is to have a contest between two social democratic parties. An election fought as a beauty contest could have only one outcome: age would lose to beauty."

If the Conservatives lost the election, it would be because they had lost faith in the philosophy that produced the "golden decade" of the 1980s.

But in Glasgow, the Prime Minister urged his party to turn away from grumbling and disillusionment as he announced his consultation exercise. "It is right for us now to discuss with you, the bedrock of our party, what you want to see in the next manifesto — a manifesto grown from our grassroots, as we build the next phase of Conservatism. I am going to go out and about. To meet you, to talk to you and to listen to you. To build a people's policy to bridge the gap between the doorsteps of Britain and the corridors of power."

Some thirty policy groups would be reporting to him next month. The next stage would be discussions throughout the party and the country around five themes: how to secure economic prosperity, how to expand opportunity and choice for all, how to promote law and order, how to deliver first class public services and how to build pride in the nation.

Special conferences would be held in England, Scotland and Wales and the "developing agenda" would begin to be unveiled at the central council meeting next spring.

Turning to the economy, Mr Major signalled that he was prepared to see interest rates go higher if necessary to clamp down on inflation "however loud the protests". But he added: "This is no ordinary recovery. What we may be seeing — provided we can carry it fully through — is the reawakening of Britain as a growing economic power."

Blair campaign 10
Julian Critchley 18

CHRIS HARRIS



Rachel Severn, 5, of Derby prepares to go on stage at the 25th performing arts festival organised by the National Deaf Children's Society in London yesterday

Robber shoots have-a-go RAF man

BY EMMA WILKINS

A SENIOR RAF officer was shot five times when he tried to disarm a gunman who had fired at a woman during a street robbery. Wing Commander Peter Drissell, 39, was recovering in hospital yesterday with bullets still lodged in his body after the attack in Vauxhall, southwest London.

Wing Commander Drissell, whose wife is an RAF squadron leader, was returning home from his office at the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall when two men produced a handgun and demanded his wallet. A woman passer-by who witnessed the attack shouted at the men to stop. One robber fired in her direction, but missed.

Wing Commander Drissell, who refused to hand over his wallet, tried to grab the gun and was himself shot in the hand, arm and stomach at pointblank range. The robbers snatched his briefcase and ran off in the direction of a housing estate, according to witnesses to the attack on Thursday evening.

The case did not contain sensitive defence documents, the ministry said.

Detective Inspector Martin Greenslade, who is leading the inquiry, praised Wing Commander Drissell's courage: "He grabbed what he knew was a real firearm. It was a hairline between him lying in a hospital bed and being on a mortuary slab."

The shooting happenened at 9.20pm just after the wing commander had visited a Chinese takeaway restaurant

Continued on page 3, col 1

A Scotland Yard marksman was accidentally shot and slightly hurt by a colleague during a police ambush yesterday..Page 3

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See page 2

INSIDE



The dangerous appeal of Diana Rigg
Magazine



Off-the-wall holidays for off-roaders
Car 95
page 7

PLUS
£3 off a WH Smith CD
Weekend
page 6

Boost for Clarke as pound bounces back

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE strong performance of the pound and figures showing the first fall in manufacturing production since the recovery began both appeared yesterday to vindicate the Chancellor's decision to leave interest rates unchanged.

As Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, put up a strong defence on his behalf saying: "Anyone who says Kenneth Clarke should be sacked is frankly, barking", the pound gained five pfennigs against the mark.

Such a large rise in one day was seen as spectacular by the City and, although it was helped by a weakening mark, its rise against a rallying dollar was an indication of sterling's strength. The last time sterling rose this much was on January 5, 1993, when it bounced back from the lows reached after withdrawal from the European exchange-rate mechanism. The pound ended at 84.7 on its trade weighted index.

The rise of 2.5 per cent since the eve of Mr Clarke's meeting with Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, last Friday, where City analysts believe that Mr Clarke blocked a rise in interest rates against the Governor's advice for political reasons, suggests critics were premature to say that he had lost his credibility.

Mr Heseltine insisted on BBC Radio yesterday that Mr Clarke had shown "guts" in not being afraid to take tough decisions when necessary.

Heseltine support, page 2
Letters, page 19
Economy slowing, page 23

First killer sub found

Underwater explorers have discovered an American *Confederate* hulk that 131 years ago was the first submarine to sink another ship. The submarine *Hunley* was found intact in 18ft of water, two and a half miles off Charleston, South Carolina. In 1864 it sunk the Union frigate *USS Housatonic* with gunpowder ..... Page 16

Imran to marry Goldsmith girl

Imran Kahn, the former Pakistan cricket captain, is to marry Jemima Goldsmith, the 21-year-old daughter of the millionaire businessman Sir James Goldsmith. The ceremony will take place at the end of next month, a spokesman for Sir James and his wife said last night.

Vicars asked to sign child abuse pledge

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A CHURCH of England diocese is to ask its vicars and other clergy to sign a declaration stating that they have never abused children before they are accepted for training or new jobs. The Ely diocese is the first in the country to introduce the anti-child abuse declaration as part of its employment procedures.

Sunday school teachers, choir masters and other parish workers who deal with children and young people are already asked to sign the declaration, which asks for "disclosure of certain types of offence, particularly those against children".

Clergy will be asked to say if they have been convicted, placed on probation or discharged by a criminal court for offences relating to sex and the physical abuse and neglect of children. Police, who can only release details of previous convictions under certain circumstances, have agreed to co-operate, charging £50 for each inquiry. The Church of England nationally is drawing up guidelines to prevent abuse.

The Ely diocese policy on child abuse, approved by the bishop's council this week and published yesterday, states: "The consequences of abuse during childhood can be devastating, even lifelong. It is essential that the church be ... a place where all children are safe from harm."

The declaration was the idea of the Bishop of Ely, the Right Rev Stephen Sykes. "It's a way of giving the public an assurance that children in our care are safe," he said.

Britons told not to travel to Zaire

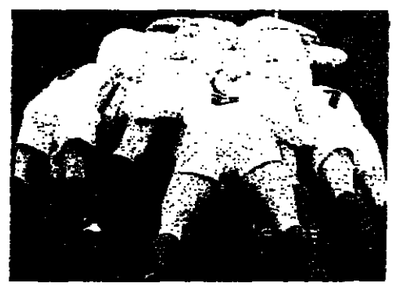
BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

INTERNATIONAL health experts tried yesterday to calm growing panic in Zaire over the killer Ebola virus.

Initial death-toll figures were at the same time sharply reduced. Many of the 170 people reported to have died of the disease, which turns internal organs to liquid, are now believed to have had illnesses with similar symptoms. One of these is red diarrhoea, a form of dysentery.

The World Health Organisation said yesterday that the confirmed Ebola death toll was 48. The Foreign Office none the less "strongly advised" Britons not to travel to Zaire because of the disease.

Fears mount, page 17



SCRUM DOWN



BOTTOMS UP

MIDDLESEX SEVENS RUGBY MATCH, TWICKENHAM	13 May
GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL OPERA	22 May-27 August
CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW	23-26 May
1ST CORNHILL TEST MATCH, HEADINGLEY	8-12 June
THE DERBY, EPSOM	10 June
ROYAL ASCOT	20-23 June
THE VEUVE CLICQUOT GOLD CUP POLO, COWDRAY PARK	25 June-16 July
WIMBLEDON TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS	26 June-9 July
HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA	28 June-2 July
124TH OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP, ST. ANDREWS	20-23 July

Veuve Clicquot
CHAMPAGNE OF THE SEASON

Premiership doubles up with a phantom cup

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON AND ALEXANDRA FREAN



The prize: the silver Premier League trophy

AFTER nine months of scandal, sleaze and sweat, the FA Carling Premiership — the *crème de la crème* of English football — reaches its climax tomorrow, with the outcome decided by two matches played 250 miles apart in Liverpool and London.

Tim Sherwood, the Blackburn Rovers captain, or Steve Bruce, the Manchester United captain, will lift the Premiership trophy at approximately 5.45pm. Or will they? Unable to predict who the Premiership champions will be, and where the coveted cup should be held, the League has made a replica of the trophy.

The League had considered using a helicopter to transfer the real trophy to the right ground but decided that this time the distance was too great.

Yesterday, nobody would confirm the existence of a second trophy. A Premier League spokesman said: "We cannot comment on the arrangements. All we can say is that there will be a presentation, whichever team wins the trophy."

It is understood that the real cup will be taken to Anfield, Liverpool, with the League officials feeling that Blackburn are the favourites to become champions, while the identical fake will be taken to West Ham's ground at Upton Park — just in case United overcome the odds to triumph.

In an unprecedented operation, BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, will show the matches simultaneously on both its sports channels. Viewers of Blackburn's game will be shown key moments from the United match in a small box in the top left-hand corner of the screen.

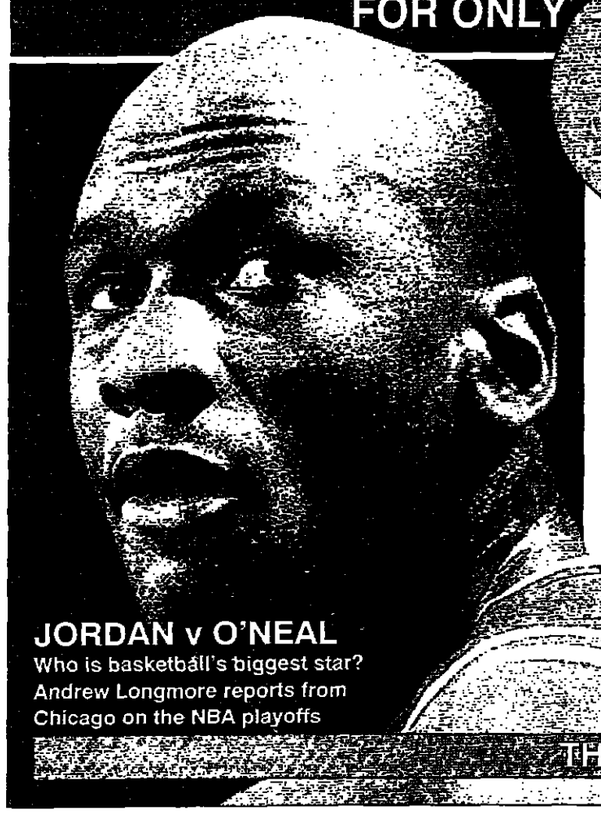
All to play for, page 44

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BOOKS: WEEKEND .. 14-15
TRAVEL: WEEKEND . 18-24

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Your chance to win a £400 Mountain Trek bike

THE TIMES AT 10p : YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT

Nolan poised to examine role of freemasons

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE influence of freemasons at the heart of Britain's Establishment could come under investigation as the Nolan committee widens its examination into standards in public life.

Lord Nolan confirmed yesterday that after the report this week into the conduct of MPs, ministers and quangos, focus could turn to the role of the masonic network. Such an investigation would take Lord Nolan's team into one of the most controversial areas of public life and would represent the first high-ranking inquiry into the workings of freemasonry.

The secrecy surrounding the brotherhood, and the insistence by masonic lodges that membership should not be divulged, has been criticised as undermining public confidence in establishment bodies. More than 300,000 men are estimated to be members of masonic lodges, many of them in senior positions of Whitehall, the police and politics.

Plans to lift the veil on the activities of freemasonry are expected to be among the issues discussed by the committee next week as it prepares for the next phase of its three-year investigation. There is also growing pressure from committee members to press John Major to reconsider his initial refusal to allow the committee to investigate the the funding of political parties.

Lord Nolan confirmed that the workings of the House of Lords would be the main priority of the next phase. However, the committee will await the findings of the Griffiths committee, which has been examining the conduct of peers in the Lords, before deciding the detail of its inquiry.

Asked which areas the committee would examine, Lord Nolan said: "Initially the House of Lords, that is a certainty now. I think local government, which we are inevitably going to ask to look at. I would rather not go beyond that at the moment, but masons is one that I have mentioned." Employment training schemes and the grant-maintained school sector are other topics under consideration.

The Government faces increasing pressure to implement many of the first Nolan report's recommendations within the next two months. Ministers have been told that the Commons disciplinary system will collapse unless they enforce radical changes.

As MPs prepare for next week's Commons debate on the Nolan recommendations, Labour leaders have warned the Government that disciplinary inquiries may be disrupted within weeks unless the Nolan changes are implemented immediately. Although next week's debate will not be followed by a vote on specific proposals, Labour will press for the Government to make clear its detailed response as soon as possible to ensure that action is taken before the summer.

In particular, Labour wants confirmation that the Government, which welcomed the "broad thrust" of the report, will support the main recommendations. These include a ban on MPs working for lobbying companies, full disclosure of MPs' earnings and contracts for providing parliamentary services, creating an independent ombudsman to deal with Commons rule breaches and having inquiries into alleged breaches held in public.

If there are delays, Labour has warned Tony Newton, the Leader of the Commons, that the first signs of revolt would affect the long-running Commons inquiry into allegations against Neil Hamilton, the former corporate affairs minister.



Nolan: new inquiries



Princess: warning

Princess cautions business leaders

BY PHILIP BASSETT

THE Princess Royal said yesterday that business was in danger of being seen as greedy and concerned only with quick profit.

Addressing delegates at the annual conference in Aberdeen of the British Chambers of Commerce, she said: "Often the image of business is all about quick profit — what you can get out of it." While such a view might be inaccurate, the image was in danger of gaining credence.

The Princess said there was nothing wrong with business making a profit. The best businesses were not only those with the right products and services, but ones that accepted a "degree of responsibility" for providing those products and services, looked after employees and customers and invested in the future.

Blair speech, page 10

Heseltine quick to support embattled Chancellor

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HESELTINE yesterday criticised Tory MPs who have called for Kenneth Clarke to resign, as the Chancellor came under further attack over his handling of relations with the Bank of England.

The President of the Board of Trade put up a strong defence of the Chancellor, who has been widely criticised over his decision not to put up interest rates last week. "Anyone who says Kenneth Clarke should be sacked is frankly, barking," Mr Heseltine said.

He also tried to play down evidence of a damaging rift between Mr Clarke and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, over inflation policy. City analysts believe that Mr Clarke blocked a rise in interest rates last Friday against the advice of Mr George.

Mr Heseltine insisted on BBC radio that Mr Clarke had the best post-war record of any Chancellor. He had shown guts in not being afraid to raise interest rates and take tough decisions when necessary, Mr Heseltine said. "I have every confidence that the Chancellor will act when he needs to with courage and in the economic interests of the country," he said.

However, Mr Clarke came under fire from two former Tory chancellors, Norman Lamont and Lord Lawson of Blaby, over allowing the minutes of his meetings with Mr George to be published.

The politicians argued that the system of publicising two points of view was inherently destabilising for the markets.

Mr Lamont told Radio 4's *The World at One*: "I am rather doubtful in the long term whether this [system] can survive because once there is any hint of disagreement between the Chancellor and the Governor the situation becomes very difficult."

Lord Lawson was also critical of Mr Clarke for failing to raise interest rates last week, although he said he was prepared to believe that the decision was made on entirely economic grounds. "The point is the markets won't believe that. To have this open disagreement [with the Governor] as a result of the current arrangements is very foolish, very silly and very damaging," he added.

Both Mr Lamont and Lord Lawson strongly advocated the establishment of an independent Bank of England with the sole power to set interest rates. While Labour does not support an independent central bank it does see the need for decision making on interest rates to become more transparent.

Yesterday Tony Blair said: "This debacle raises questions about the whole process. When you have the Governor of the Bank of England saying he is lying awake at night wondering whether the Government has the nerve to take the right decision there is a serious problem that needs to be addressed."

Boost for Clarke, page 1

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rosemary West denies murders

Rosemary West yesterday entered formal not-guilty pleas to ten counts of murder when she appeared before a judge at Winchester Crown Court, where her trial will take place in October. Mrs West, 41, a mother of seven, whose husband Fred was found hanged in his cell at Winson Green prison, Birmingham, on New Year's Day, also denied charges of rape and indecent assault on two women. Mr Justice Mantell, who will be the trial judge, estimated that the case would last six to eight weeks.

Irish abortion Bill 'legal'

A Bill allowing abortion information to be made available in the Irish Republic was held to be constitutional by the Supreme Court yesterday. Michael Noon, the republic's Health Minister, said that women seeking information about foreign abortion clinics would receive counselling, which could lead them to change their minds.

Oyston on sex charges

Gwen Oyston and Peter Martin, a model agency chief, were charged at Manchester Magistrates' Court with conspiring to procure women for sex with the millionaire businessman. Oyston, 61, is also accused of four rapes and four indecent assaults on the women. Committal proceedings are likely to last more than a week.

Channel 5 inquiry call

Two rival bidders for the Channel 5 television licence, who offered the same amount for the franchise last week, have both called for independent inquiries to prove that they were not acting in collusion. Virgin TV and Channel 5 Broadcasting each bid £22,002,000.

Bank manager stole

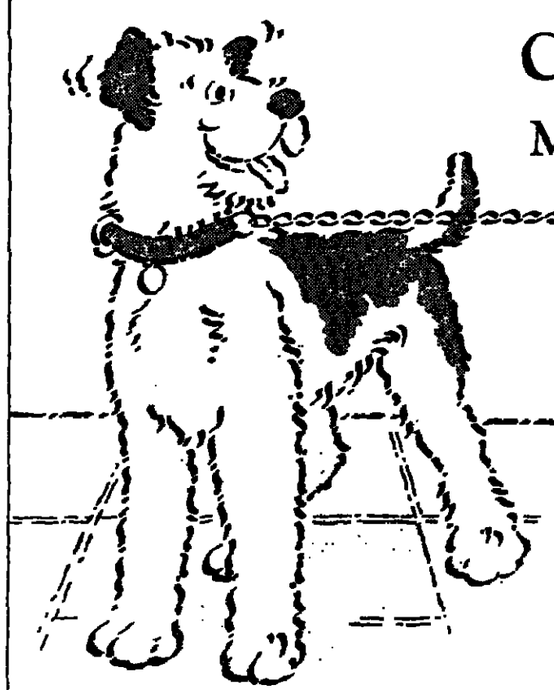
George Gray, 55, of Melksham, Wiltshire, manager of the NatWest at Wooton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, was given an 18-month jail sentence, suspended for two years, by Gloucester Crown Court after admitting stealing £13,000 from client accounts to pay his daughters' school fees.

Labour's Welsh plan

Labour pledged yesterday to set up a Welsh assembly, with powers to pass some laws but not to raise taxes. In a move that Labour admitted would disappoint nationalists, it unveiled proposals for an assembly with significantly weaker powers than those for its Scottish counterpart.

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Shootings in London

Body armour saves policeman hit by accident in ambush

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A SCOTLAND YARD marksman was accidentally shot in the chest by a fellow officer during a police ambush yesterday. Saved by body armour, he escaped with bruises.

The shooting happened in Stamford Hill, north London as police opened fire on a robber trying to chop off a security guard's arm with an axe, to take a cash box chained to his wrist. The robber was uninjured but hit the guard in the neck before surrendering.

The wounded officer was wearing lightweight "covert" armour which could be on offer to the force under plans by Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, to make armour available to all officers because of the increase in attacks.

Armed police opened fire when a Securicor guard was attacked by the axe-wielding robber after he had made a delivery to a branch of the Midland Bank. Officers had set an ambush for the assailant, who made his move when the guard came out of the bank carrying an empty cash box. Flying Squad officers acting on a tip-off were lying in wait with armed response officers, a spokesman said.

"A suspect came out of an alleyway wielding an axe, he struck the guard with the axe, believed to be three times, causing slash injuries. The armed officers challenged the suspect and shots were fired."

A local businessman, Charlie Josephs, told of the police preparations. "There were police in my brother's office. There are four banks on the crossroads and no one seemed to know which bank was going to be hit.

"Paramedics were parked round the corner. There were police all over the place," he said.

One bullet was fired into the window frame of a travel agency. The manageress, Tina Ashton, 21, said: "We ran to the window.

"There seemed to be police everywhere. I heard them say 'Armed police — do not move'. There was a policeman in plain clothes who had been shot."

She added: "A white man carrying an axe was lying in the road. He was quickly surrounded by police who were aiming guns at him. They took the axe and handcuffed him," she added.

The incident comes just two days after the announcement that body armour is to be issued to all Metropolitan Police officers.

Last night as the Securicor guard and the wounded officer received treatment at Homerton Hospital a man was questioned by detectives.

Meanwhile, Scotland Yard began an investigation into the ambush and its planning. Senior officers will want to know how the highly trained wounded officer came to be in the line of fire and why shots were fired when he was at risk. One Yard source said that similar incidents had happened in armed operations by other forces abroad and it was likely to happen one day in London.

The armed officers were working with a team from the Flying Squad who had been tipped off that a raid was going to be carried out near a bank in a parade of shops in Stamford Hill. A watch was set up over three banks in the parade, and the ambush had been mounted at least once before yesterday's incident.

RAF officer shot

Continued from page 1

on his way home from work. Colleagues at the ministry who visited him at St Thomas's Hospital, Lambeth, said yesterday that his identity card had been taken. "He told us the only thing stolen was his MoD identity pass, which has a photograph of him and could not be used by anyone else," an official said.



A cartridge from the scene

Wing Commander Drissell works for the ministry's military planning department. He is responsible for Britain's air commitments over the next ten years. He is a member of the RAF Regiment, whose duties include the guarding of airfields against terrorists.

Two bullets broke his arm and a finger and the others hit him in the stomach. His wife Pauline was at his side yesterday. The couple have no children. The police said they were seeking two black youths in their late teens. One was wearing a red baseball cap and red jacket. The other was wearing a beige jacket. The gunman was wearing a gold chain.

A nine-year-old schoolboy, who witnessed the shooting, said: "I saw these two men arguing with a businessman. He would not hand over his wallet. They started shouting and swearing at him and pulled out a gun and shot him about six times before running off.

"He fell to the floor and they stood there shooting him in the stomach and then ran off past my window."

Former lawyer swindled actress out of £82,000

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE veteran actress Moira Lister was swindled out of £82,000 by a former solicitor who lavished most of it on his daughter's wedding.

John Hillman spent £11,000 hiring the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for the reception, and spent most of the rest on a world honeymoon cruise for his daughter and son-in-law.

At Southwark Crown Court yesterday Hillman, 64, of Lymington, Hampshire, admitted obtaining property by deception. He was given a two-year jail sentence, suspended for two years.

She thought that she was supporting a legitimate business venture to buy and refurbish a Scunthorpe snooker hall. But Hillman transferred the money into his own account. When Miss Lister became suspicious and asked for her money back, she was given a handful of post-dated cheques that later bounced.



Lister: deceived

Hillman, a former West End lawyer, had not told Miss Lister that he had been suspended from practising after a £10,000 will fraud for which he was sentenced to nine months in jail.

Judge Geffrey Rivlin, QC, told Hillman that his "carefully organised" dishonesty deserved a two-year jail sentence. The case, however, was exceptional in that the offence had occurred more than nine years ago, Hillman's health was very poor and Miss Lister had waited for more than six years before complaining to the police.

In those circumstances "the proper and just" course was to suspend the jail term. Because Hillman was a bankrupt, there was no point in making a compensation order, the judge said.

Outside court Miss Lister, television star of the *The Very Merry Widow* and *Life Begins at 40*, said that she was disappointed with the sentence. "I would have liked to have seen him put away, although I am delighted that this nightmare is now over."

She said that she had no hope of getting back any of the £82,000. She had not reported the fraud earlier solicitors had advised her to seek civil redress, but she had to call off a High Court action when her money ran out.

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Halcro and Julie Johnston at St Thomas's Hospital, south London, yesterday

Stabbed actor's life saved by passers-by

BY MARIANNE DARCH

THE wife of a West End actor stabbed in the heart by muggers has appealed to the passers-by who helped to save his life to come forward.

Julie Johnston, 41, said yesterday: "The people doing this kind of crime need to be stopped. I hope people will come forward with information to help to stamp it out."

Halcro Johnston, 44, who plays the landlord in the musical *Oliver!*, was assaulted on Monday night after a performance at the Palladium as he fetched his car from south London.

He was stabbed in the chest by one of two black men in Elephant and Castle. They fled with his bag containing credit cards and a little cash.

He said: "I was aware mostly of being punched in the face and then being down on the ground. I said, 'For God's sake, just take it, take everything', and then I realised I was bleeding."

Mr Johnston, of Crayford, Kent, underwent three hours of open-heart surgery at St Thomas's Hospital. A single stab wound had punctured his heart and lung. He was critical for 48 hours.

Two German students and a woman with a buggy were at the scene. One student stanched Mr Johnston's blood and the other called the emergency services. Another witness, who is helping inquiries, blocked the open chest wound with his thumb.

Girl could only grunt after years in room

BY A STAFF REPORTER

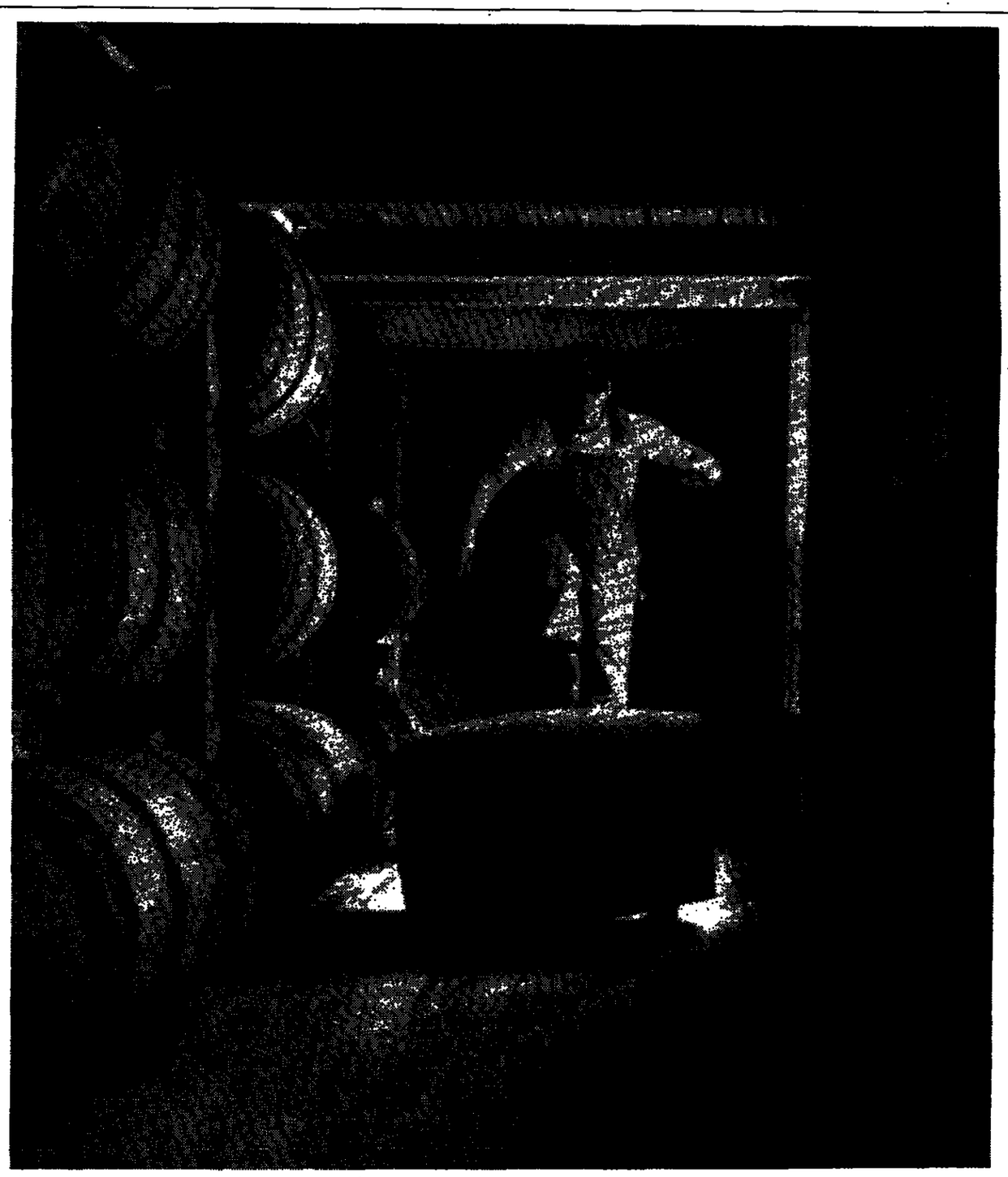
A CHILD was left alone in her bedroom without light for as much as 22 hours a day for up to two years, a court was told yesterday. Neighbours did not know the girl existed and her plight was not discovered until her first day at school. Teachers alerted social workers when they saw that the emaciated girl could hardly walk and communicated through grunts and squeals.

Ian Thomas, for the prosecution, told Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court the five-year-old girl lived with her mother and partner and the neglect began after the couple had a son in April 1992.

Judge Donald Hamilton, who ordered that the girl's identity be protected, said: "The doctors who examined the child found that she had a mental age of 18 months to two years. She didn't smile or laugh, but ate ravenously when fed and was dwarfed by her brother, who was two years younger."

When officers went to the house they found that the girl's bedroom was cold and smelt of urine. There was nothing in the room apart from a sheet that was pinned over the window and a blanket over the cot.

The man, 24, and the woman, 27, admitted cruelty to a child and were jailed for two years each. The girl is showing signs of recovery and will enter mainstream schooling soon.



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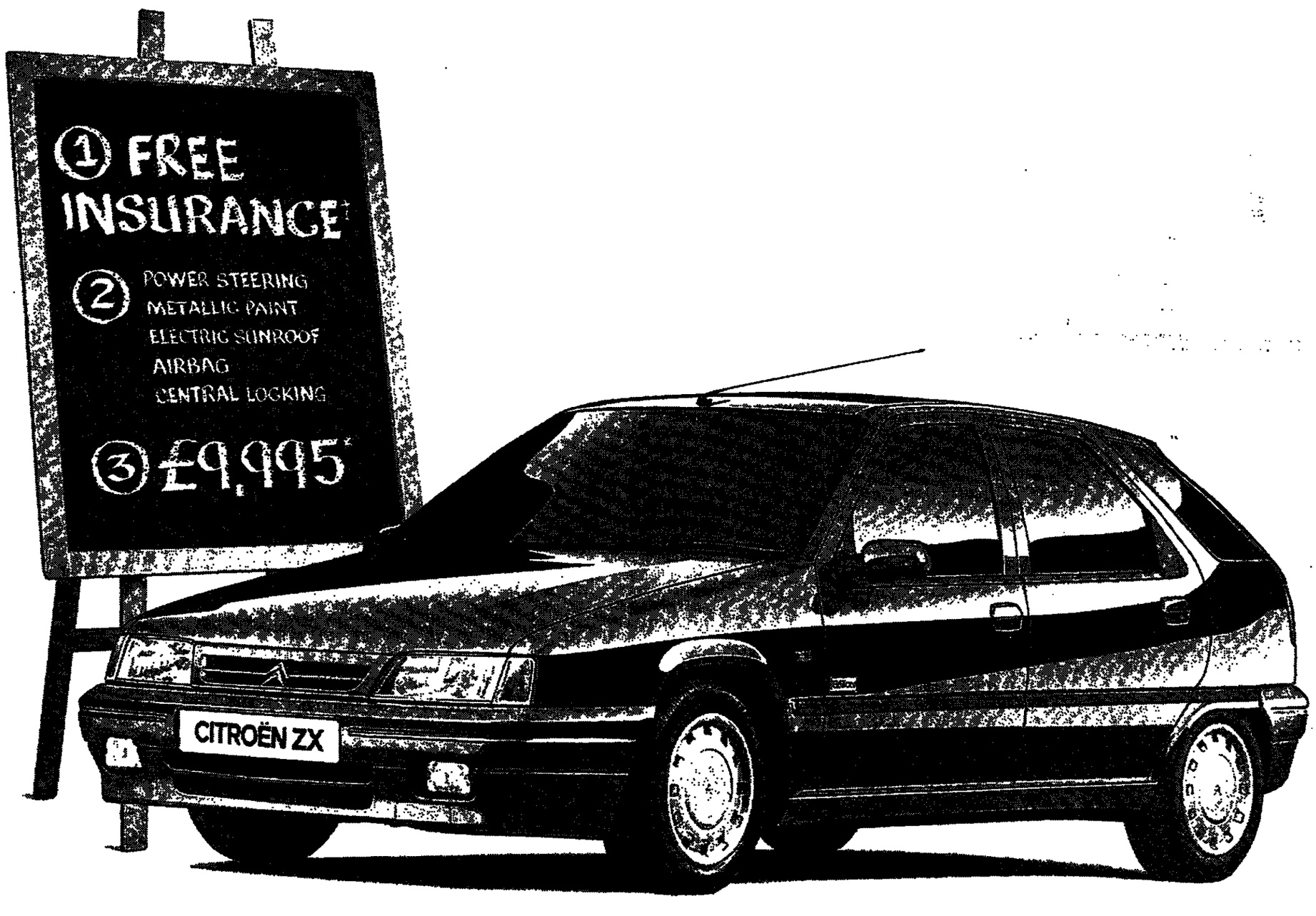
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'Difficult to see what could be more unfair than to leave them in the dark'

Fayed brothers win right to challenge citizenship refusal

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MOHAMED AL FAYED, the chairman of Harrods, and his brother Ali yesterday won permission to challenge a government minister's refusal to grant them British citizenship.

Mr Justice Popplewell ruled that they could go to the High Court to argue that the procedure that led to the rejection being given without reasons was a "blatant" denial of natural justice. He gave the Egyptian-born brothers leave to seek judicial review of the decisions by Nicholas Baker, the immigration minister.

Michael Beloff, QC, for both men, told the High Court that there was evidence from a former government chauffeur backing allegations that political reasons had been behind the decision to refuse the citizenship applications.

Mr Baker rejected both men's applications for British citizenship in February. At the time the Home Office said there was nothing in the regulations requiring reasons to be given to the men, who have been resident in Britain for more than 30 years.

Mr Beloff said at no time had the brothers been told why their applications were rejected. "It was difficult to see what could be more unfair than to take a decision of such sensitivity and yet leave the victim in the dark as to his possible fate and deny him the opportunity to avoid it," he told the court.

The Home Office opposed yesterday's application, saying that it would subvert the intention of Parliament which stated in the 1981 British Nationality Act that the Secretary of State did not have to disclose the basis of his decision.

Stephen Richard, counsel for the Home Office, said: "The applicants are seeking to make a nonsense of the statute." Under the law the Secretary of State had complete freedom to form his own judgment as to the appropriateness of granting citizenship, he said.

Outside the court, Michael Cole, director of public affairs for Harrods, said it was a satisfactory judgment. "They are satisfied we now have an opportunity to find out the real reasons for refusal of naturalisation to both of them. We are looking forward to getting this before a judge as soon as possible."

The brothers' commitment to this country was total, he said. "They give worthwhile employment to 5,000 British people, they are patriotic about Britain, they are not going to go and live anywhere else."

ANDRE CAMARA



Mohamed Al Fayed in the Harrods food hall yesterday after his legal success

Soccer chiefs seek aid to prosecute thugs overseas

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

THE Government should help to fund the prosecution of known football hooligans abroad, Rick Parry, chief executive of the Premier League, said yesterday.

Mr Parry, speaking at a conference that united the football establishment and European MPs seeking to restrict the movements of hooligans, said: "It is essential that troublemakers who coalesce around the England national team know they face certain prosecution rather than just deportation."

The conference, chaired by Glyn Ford, MEP for Greater Manchester East and a Manchester City supporter, is likely to lead to a report by Euro-MPs recommending a European-wide campaign against troublemakers. Mr Parry said: "Innocent supporters are rounded up and reared in a draconian way while troublemakers are not even being identified."

David Dein, vice-chairman of Arsenal, which on Wednesday lost the European Cup Winners' Cup final in Paris, said: "Hooliganism is under control in local stadia, but activist movements latch onto travelling fans. The police abroad tend to treat all travelling English fans as potential criminals."

The idea of a central funding pool was mooted by John Williams of the Leicester University centre for football reasearch. He said: "Foreign governments feel, rightly, they shouldn't have to pay for an English problem. At the moment they seem willing only to deport, which doesn't distinguish between the guilty and the innocent."

The police body heading the fight against football hooliganism was criticised for not taking part in the day-long hearing at the European Parliament's London offices. The foorball unit of the National Criminal Intelligence Service was invited to give evidence but, Mr Ford said, "I was told yesterday that the Home Office have advised them not to."

A Home Office spokeswoman said the department would submit written evidence.

Russian songster works towards greater harmony

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

AFTER waiting a year for the chance to prove itself on Europe's most hotly contested stage, Russia is confident that it has the song, the style and the message for the biggest upset in the Eurovision Song Contest's four decades of competition.

On the eve of the 23-nation gala, Russia unveiled Filipp Kirkorov, a Freddie Mercury lookalike with long hair and a penchant for white suits. He has already refined his Eurovision theme and, in keeping with the VE-Day celebrations this week, has pledged to spread the message of peace to his fellow Europeans.

"My song is called *Volcano Lullaby*," he said before leaving for Dublin. "It's a lullaby for world peace, a sincere, traditional song, sung from the heart."

While few would contest his saccharin message, history is against him. Last year's Russian contestant managed only ninth place with a dreary ballad called *Eternal Wanderer*.

Nonetheless, Russia will be solidly behind its 28-year-old prodigy. Last year the kitschy contest attracted a widespread following, with 70 million viewers from Moscow to the Pacific tuning in to watch an Irish entry win for the third time in a row.

Kirkorov said he would not let down his fans and predicted that if he is in the right mood on the night he should be able to pull off an upset for the bookmakers' favourites Slovenia and Sweden.

"Every year the competition has a different mood: last year it was nostalgia, this year who knows?" he said. His only concern is that the host nation may bear a grudge against Russia after President Yeltsin's failure to emerge from his aircraft for a meeting with Irish leaders at Shannon airport last year, when it was rumoured the Kremlin boss was drunk.

"It is a shame that Russia presented itself in such a poor light last time in Shannon," he said. "I hope to compensate for Yeltsin's gaffe."

☐ The accountants at RTE, Ireland's state broadcasting company, may privately be hoping that this year's Irish entry, *Dreamin'*, fails because victory would mean finding another £2.3 million to host the competition for a fourth consecutive year.



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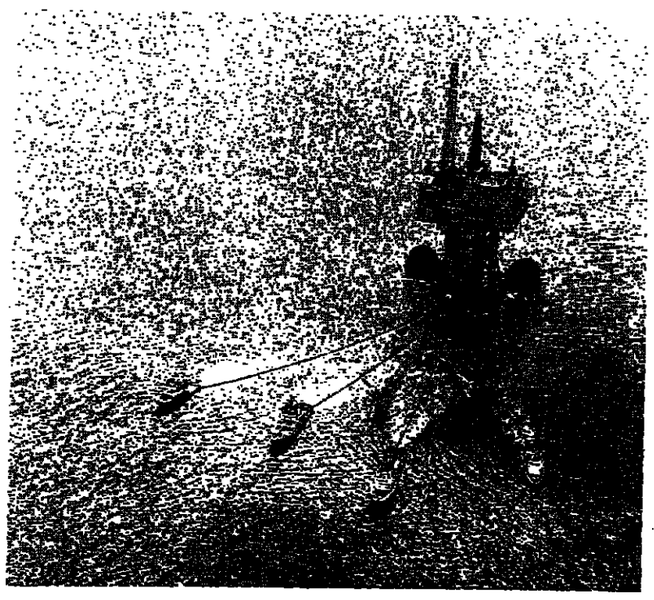
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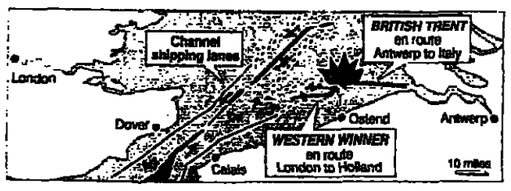
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'Grossly negligent' crew rammed ship and took pictures as seaman died in burning oil

Unlawful killing verdict on tanker fireball deaths

By Jonathan Prynn
Transport Correspondent



THE South Korean crew of a cargo vessel that rammed a BP oil tanker in the English Channel, killing nine people, took photographs of the seamen as they fought for their lives in the burning sea, an inquest was told yesterday.

Verdicts of unlawful killing were recorded on the four British victims of the disaster in June 1993, when the *British Trent* was hit by the Hong Kong-owned bulk carrier *Western Winner* in thick fog off Ostend.

Survivors said at the inquest at Poole, Dorset, that the crew of the *Western Winner* made no attempt to rescue them. Instead, they ran for their cameras and began photographing the men swimming in the flaming oil which poured from the tanker's hull.

Adrian Dunn, chief engineer, said: "I remember seeing the freighter and the crew taking photos of us in the water. It was very close. They did not make any moves to assist us." Another crewman said after the hearing: "They were animals, they just looked down on us and watched us struggle through their cameras."

Families of the nine men killed on the *British Trent* silently watched a recording of the collision as seen by traffic control radar. The signal from the bulk carrier *Western Winner* closed in on the *British Trent* before the two signals merged.

An official inquiry found that the *Western Winner* had been travelling at 11.5 knots, giving an emergency stopping distance of 700 metres, although visibility was between 50 and 200 metres. The *British Trent*, disembarking a pilot, was virtually stationary. The tanker immediately erupted in flames, and after trying to fight the fire the crew were ordered by Captain Stanley Montague to abandon ship. As they were about to launch the lifeboat they were engulfed by a thick cloud of smoke containing cyanide gas and burning debris.

Captain Peter Dalby, the marine accident investigator who conducted the inquiry, told the inquest that the crew of the *Western Winner* had "committed every possible navigational sin" in the lead-up to the collision and was guilty of "gross negligence". They had refused to assist with the investigation and the master, Captain Dae Pung Gang, had vanished.

Of the nine who died, four were British, two were Irish, and three were from Sierra Leone. The badly burned body of Electrical Officer Matthew Clements, 23, from Bournemouth, was washed up at Ostend seven weeks later.

Nigel Neville-Jones, the East Dorset Coroner, said: "The collision would never have happened had fundamental rules been observed. The *Western Winner* failed to comply with international rules relating to prevention of collision at sea."

The master had been "grossly negligent", and the coroner criticised Belgian sea traffic control for giving no warning that a very dangerous situation was developing. "That was inexcusable."

The British dead were: Chief Officer Adrian Hirst, 25, of Jarrow, Tyne and Wear; Third Engineer John Gray, 53, of Sunderland; Third Officer Robert Bold, 53, of York; Electrical Officer Clements.


The *British Trent*, struck in the fog after slowing down to disembark a pilot

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One school in eight puts pupils' futures at risk

By Ben Preston, Education Correspondent

MORE than 500 state schools are failing and a further 2,500 are providing pupils with a "very poor" standard of education, the Government conceded yesterday.

Eric Forth, the Education Minister, accepted an estimate that one in eight schools had serious shortcomings which were jeopardising their pupils' futures. The figure, which exceeds any previous estimate, is a projection by Professor Michael Barber, of Keele University, based on inspection reports for the Office For Standards in Education.

Professor Barber, a senior education adviser to David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, demanded that inspectors be given fresh powers to identify bad teachers and heads in confidential reports. These should trigger "competence procedures" which could lead to their dismissal. He has sent to Tony Blair's private office a copy of detailed proposals to turn around bad schools.

Mr Forth said at a London conference that the figures did not surprise him. He said: "We have always recognised that there will be a hard core of schools failing. It is quite likely that the category of schools which are very poor is as high as 2,500."

When John Patten, the former Education Secretary, set up the new inspection regime two years ago he indicated that about 200 schools would be found to be failing. But about 50 schools with some 8,000 pupils have already been identified, three years before inspection of all 24,000 schools is completed.

Professor Barber told the conference that in addition to the 1 to 2 per cent of schools exposed as failing, inspectors reported that another 5 to 10 per cent were struggling. He said: "The chief distinction between 'failing' and 'struggling' is in the relative capacity of the school to improve from within. In the former, there will be little or no evidence of this capacity."

Professor Barber, a former policy adviser to the National Union of Teachers, said politicians could not afford to ignore the issue of poor education performance. He said: "While managing a successful school is infinitely more complex than controlling air traffic, failure in education is as catastrophic in its consequences as failure in the airline industry."

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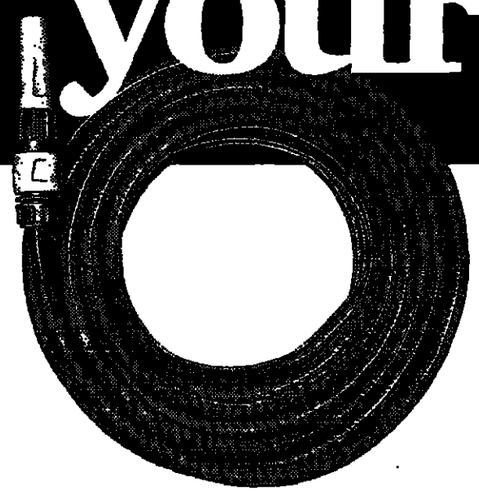
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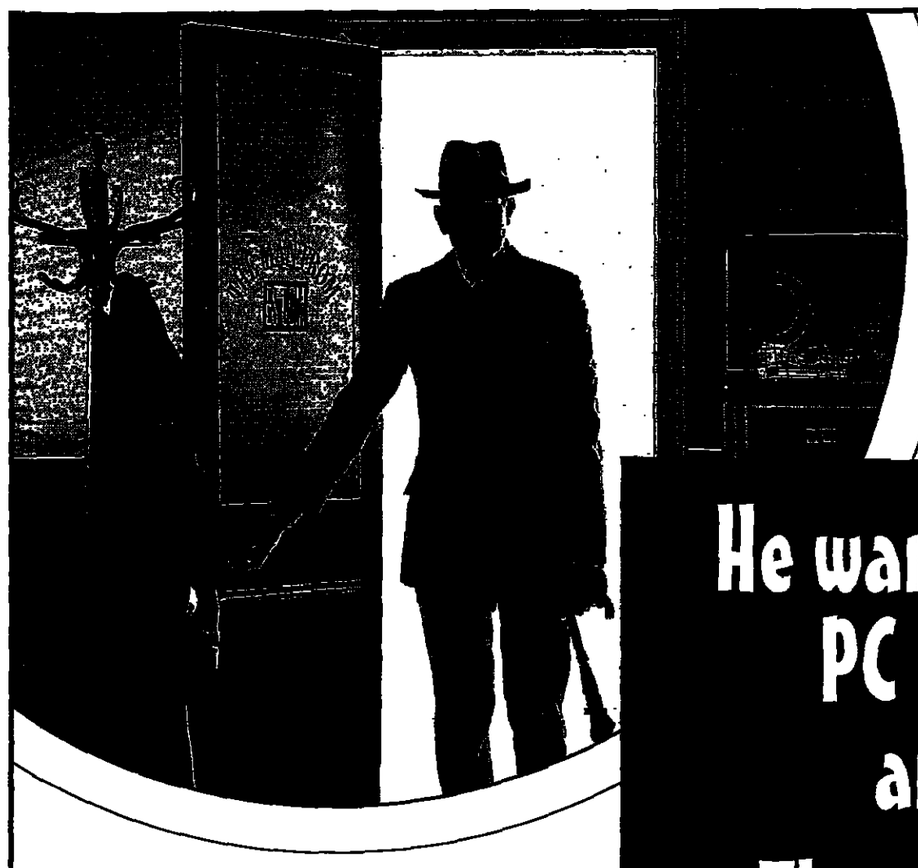
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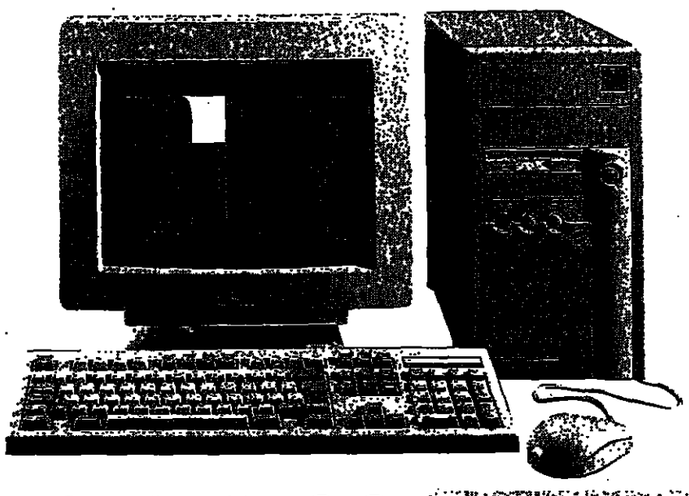
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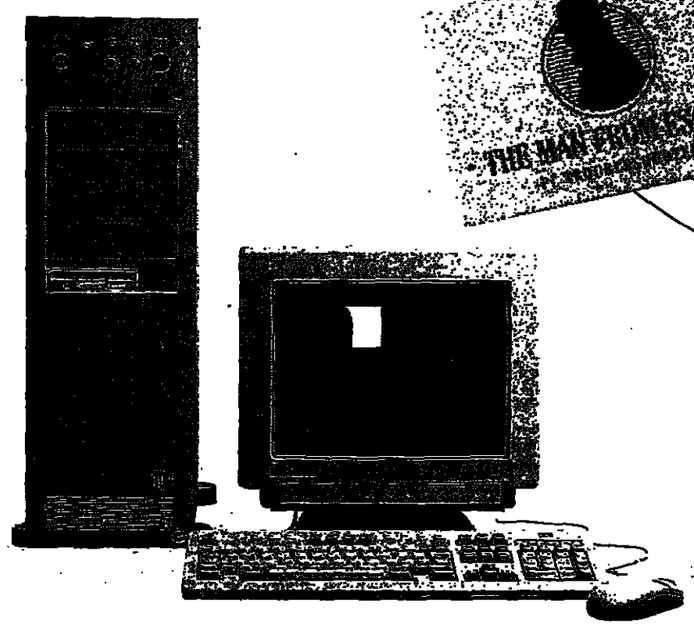
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هذا من الأصل

Worlock pays tribute to city's 'uncrushable character which inspires and endures'

Archbishop retires from Liverpool's church double act

THE retirement of the Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Rev Derek Worlock, will bring to a close a remarkable era in church affairs.

During nearly 20 years in Liverpool, Dr Worlock transformed Roman Catholic-Anglican relations in Britain with the famous ecumenical "double act" he shared with the Right Rev David Sheppard, the Anglican bishop at the other end of Hope Street. Working together on campaigns, protest marches and behind the scenes, and through joint books such as *Better Together* in 1988 and its sequel last year, they helped to put Liverpool's social and political problems on the map.

Dr Worlock, who has suffered ill health for many years with a digestive condition and recently lung cancer, will retire when the Pope appoints a successor, probably before the year is out. But he made clear that he intended to remain as active as ever in church life.

He announced his retirement to the archdiocese's priests on Thursday. "When I woke up the next morning I thought I must be dead," he said yesterday. "I heard so many tributes on the radio, they sounded like my obituaries. One man on a radio station said he would try to raise me in half an hour while I was getting up. It sounded as if the flowers would arrive at any moment."



Ruth Gledhill, above, religion correspondent, reflects on the unusual alliance of Hope Street

What he liked most about Liverpool was "a certain uncrushability about the Liverpool character which is inspiring and enduring". "I have been very happy here," he said. When appointed Archbishop in 1976, he was given a double mandate by the Vatican — to guide the Church to face the social problems of the area and to try to put an end to sectarianism. He considers he has made big advances in both areas, an opinion supported by the unprecedented step to make him and Dr Sheppard freemen of the city.

His retirement was expected, because under canon law bishops must offer to go at 75, which he reached in February. He said: "They want to begin consulting about a successor so it seems right to make the announcement now, even though I expect to be here for some months until a new man is appointed."

He has been a bishop for nearly 30 years, making him one of the longest-serving in the country. "So far as I am concerned, I have enjoyed every moment of my priesthood and every moment of being a bishop, with all its responsibilities. Even though I shall no longer be Archbishop of Liverpool, I hope to continue to be not only a priest, but also of service to the bishops' conference and general community in any way that is open to me."

He will continue his many speaking engagements, and to liaise between the hierarchy and the clergy through the annual National Conference of Priests, where he is the bishops' representative. "I do not intend to sink into doing nothing, I can assure you."

BARRY GREENWOOD



David Sheppard, left, describes Derek Warlock, his Roman Catholic counterpart, as shrewd and steady

Dr Sheppard, who is expected to step down before the 1998 Lambeth Conference, said: "Derek Worlock has been a great bishop for the church and a great bishop for Liverpool. Through dark years for Liverpool and more recently through dark times of personal illness he has been a man of hope, hope rooted in his crucified and risen Lord. His faith makes him look with shrewd and steady eyes at the whole world.

"He demonstrates his love of God in his love for Liverpool. He insists that loving thy neighbour must include that neighbour's need of a job, of decent housing and of freedom from prejudice and poverty."

The Vatican will immediately begin considering a successor and Dr Worlock has asked the senior auxiliary bishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev John Rawsthorne, to take this forward. Clergy, monks, nuns, lay people and the deans of the archdiocese will be consulted in a process that is expected to take months.

Dr Worlock, who will become Archbishop Emeritus of Liverpool, is sure his successor will be a good choice. "The Pope has been here. He knows me and he knows a lot about Liverpool." Liverpool is a particularly important archdiocese because, with more than 500,000 Catholics, it is the biggest in England and Wales. This compares with 39,000 on the electoral roll in the Anglican Liverpool diocese.

At Your Service Weekend, page 2

Grouse keepers blamed for hawk killings

By Gillian Bowditch
Scotland Correspondent

GAMEKEEPERS trying to protect valuable Scottish grouse moors are believed to be responsible for most of the poisonings and shootings of birds of prey last year.

A succession of poor grouse seasons in Scotland appears to have made some gamekeepers, who believe buzzards and hen harriers are taking their grouse chicks, more willing to risk prosecution.

There were 170 reported cases of illegal killings of birds of prey in Scotland last year, according to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. In 117 incidents where there were named suspects, 75 per cent of them were gamekeepers. The concentration of killings was also around grouse moors.

The RSPB said 53 deaths from poisoning were recorded. Overall, hen harriers bore the brunt of the persecution, with buzzards the most frequently poisoned species.

Of 71 incidents where the species killed could be identified, 31 involved hen harriers, 19 buzzards, 12 peregrine falcons, 4 golden eagles and 4 goshawks, of which there are only 90 pairs in Scotland.

While many landowners, particularly in the west Highlands and Borders, had taken action to conserve birds of prey, in grouse moors in Grampian and southern Scotland hen harriers and buzzards were still regularly persecuted. The four golden eagles killed were all found in grouse-shooting areas.

David Minns, head of public affairs in Scotland for the RSPB, said the increase in buzzard numbers to 6,000 pairs showed that poisoning was a decreasing problem. Gamekeepers were attacking the hen harrier, a species extremely loyal to its nest and chicks, by destroying nests.

The RSPB said that illegal killings had risen from 38 in 1985 to 170 last year, but much of that was due to increased reporting. Killings had remained static for the past two years. The RSPB believes the reported incidents last year represent only a small proportion of the actual killings.

Religion is irrelevant without integrity in public and private life

Credo

Professor Richard Whitfield

LIFE as a journey is a common metaphor, not least for religious people. Journeying is often an untidy business, despite our best-laid plans. Much in life is unpredictable, including key points at which our integrity is tested and either established or blown apart. For Jesus, the wilderness temptations, his trial by Pilate and the Crucifixion were his sternest tests.

Losing our way can be agonising and take many forms. It may come through the loss of a loved one who was both a companion and a guide. It may come through the loss of roles or status in employment which have shored us up. Or on the journey we may have a crisis of faith in which origins and destinies have little meaning. Or we may lose our way by the guilt of failure in key situations involving moral choice: for example leaving spouse and children, plotting to oust a colleague or shifting culpability for our own mistakes onto others. In such cases, we are said to lose our integrity.

Our identity and integrity are entwined. Identity is "being a specified person". Integrity is about honesty, wholeness and soundness — a term laced with ethical implications. Yet these simple definitions feel too static as we examine the complex nature of human biological, emotional, social, intellectual and moral development. Our journeying cannot avoid being a dynamic process, with a regular need to check out personal nature or temperament and ethical bearings if identity and integrity are to be sustained.

A helpful view of identity is that of "life story". We cannot know who we are unless we can piece together an adequate story of our lives. Within that story there will be people, places, concepts, achievements, regrets, gifts, deprivations and losses. We have to make bearable sense of them all, a hard task if there has not been much warmth and stability in our lives, particularly as children. Our principal attachments to other people lie at the heart of identity.

Integrity, given minimally permitting conditions, including initiation in our youth into a sense of right and wrong, is then an achievement derived from our personal behaviour in tight corners of moral choice. It is at such points that spiritual gifts can see us through, grace becoming available when our own resources are spent.

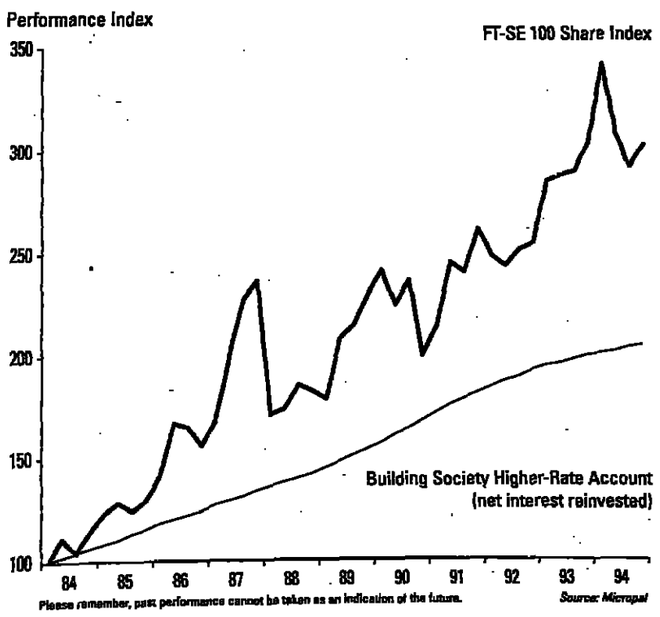
Too often for comfort, the ethical foundations of institutions of which we are a part — family, academia, politics, the law, business and industry, and the churches — are found wanting. A core task of organised religion is to call us individually and collectively to witness with integrity. Without that, in this modern age, religious affiliations are understandably seen as an irrelevance.

Sometimes that witness will involve a sacrifice — a Calvary experience. There were many examples of that in the war concluded 50 years ago. Perhaps our integrity now needs to be assessed in the light of what we are making of the freedoms granted by those sacrifices. It was not only Christ who died for us, for reliability in our family life and for the integrity of our public institutions.

☐ ***Professor Richard Whitfield is warden of St George's House, Windsor Castle, and honorary chairman of the National Family Trust.***

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HO 893

Tony Blair strives for backing of business leaders

BY PHILIP BASSETT AND JILL SHERMAN

TONY BLAIR called yesterday for a new understanding between the Labour Party and business, declaring that the days of "old-style corporatism" were over.

Promising to continue modernising the party, the Labour leader told business leaders that it would be "folly" to return to the industrial battles of the 70s and 80s.

Mr Blair, in a speech to the British Chambers of Commerce annual conference in Aberdeen, said the main elements of trade union law would remain under a Labour government, and there would be no return to the penal rates of taxation. "Picking winners, old-style corporatism, beer and sandwiches — have had their day," he said.

As well spelling out details of Labour's policies towards industry, he used his speech to emphasise that the tide of support for modernisation in the party was now running strongly. He outlined his determination to make a Labour government successful, adopting policies that would ensure it would last longer than a single Parliament. "I don't intend to have a one-term wonder as a Labour government."

He called for a fresh approach with a "proper constructive dialogue" between his party and business and said that he would embark on another nationwide tour to all Chambers of Commerce and regional CBIs. Over the next few months Mr Blair, John Prescott, Gordon Brown and Harriet Harman will stage a similar roadshow to the Clause Four campaign, to convince businessmen of Labour's new approach.

"Old Labour thought the role of Government was to interfere with the market," Mr Blair said. "New Labour believes the task of government is to make the market more dynamic, to provide people and business with the means of success.

"For far too long, Labour's relations with business have merely been about reassurance. Convincing you there is nothing to fear is fine, but we must offer you more than that. I want a proper constructive dialogue, a new understanding between a party serious about governing Britain well and a business community prepared to look to the future. I believe that is now within our grasp."

Business leaders warmly applauded Mr Blair, though they were cool about his clear commitments to introduce a statutory national minimum wage and to sign up to the European social chapter on future employment legislation. He accepted that both issues were "areas of potential disagreement" with business, but promised that Labour would consult business.



Tony Blair at the conference yesterday

His most sustained appeal to business came as the results of a poll of conference delegates showed a sharp improvement in his popularity rating. A similar poll at last year's BCC conference placed him in third place as best leader for Britain, behind John Major and Michael Heseltine. But yesterday's poll saw him and Mr Major neck and neck, each backed by 31 per cent of those who took part.

Business leaders were evenly divided on whether the Tories' re-election chances were greater under Mr Major. An overwhelming 74 per cent believed that Mr Blair's changes to Clause Four of Labour's constitution had made the party more electable.

Mr Blair set out detailed Labour policies towards industry in seven key areas: education and training, a public-private partnership on industrial infrastructure, harnessing new technology, encouraging investment, tackling long-term unemployment, opening up markets for British business and encouraging small and medium-sized companies.

Richard Brown, BCC deputy director general, described Mr Bair's speech as "quite remarkable" although he remained sceptical about whether industry yet saw Labour as the party for business. "He will certainly have won over some hearts of business, if not their minds as well."



Bernard Jordan, the new Tory Mayor of Hove, preparing for his inaugural ceremony yesterday. Labour moved swiftly onto other business

Labour puts policy before pomp in Hove

BY IAN MURRAY

THE Labour leader of Hove council wasted no time yesterday in demonstrating that the town was under new management after 97 years of Tory rule.

Ivor Caplin ignored the convention that the first meeting was meant to be no more than a mayor-making ceremony and launched into a controversial political agenda that clearly shocked the new opposition. Labour immediately issued promises to fight live animal exports, abolish the transfer of council houses, block the closure of a hospital, slash bureaucracy and help Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club.

Similar scenes are likely in town halls up and down the country over the next week as newly elected Labour councils take control of boroughs in which they never dreamt of winning power.

Top of Mr Caplin's agenda was the need to end the "disgusting trade" of the export of live animals through the port of Shoreham, on the edge of the borough. He had already ordered the chief executive to see if the non-elected quango which runs the port could legally be replaced by a more democratic body. If this were not possible he intended to win support in Westminster for a change in the law. He said that the exports were killing the town's tourist trade and putting jobs in danger. Meanwhile, he would pressing for "the exporters who carry out this disgusting trade to pay for the policing", rather than the residents of Hove.

As he laid out his programme, Mr Caplin recalled that the meeting was taking place on the first anniversary of the former Labour leader John Smith's death. "He will be smiling down today on Hove after what happened last week," he said.

Members of the new opposition were not smiling, however. Janet Wakeling, leader of the three-strong Liberal Democrat group, leapt to her feet as he finished speaking. "A political speech here is totally out of place," she said angrily.

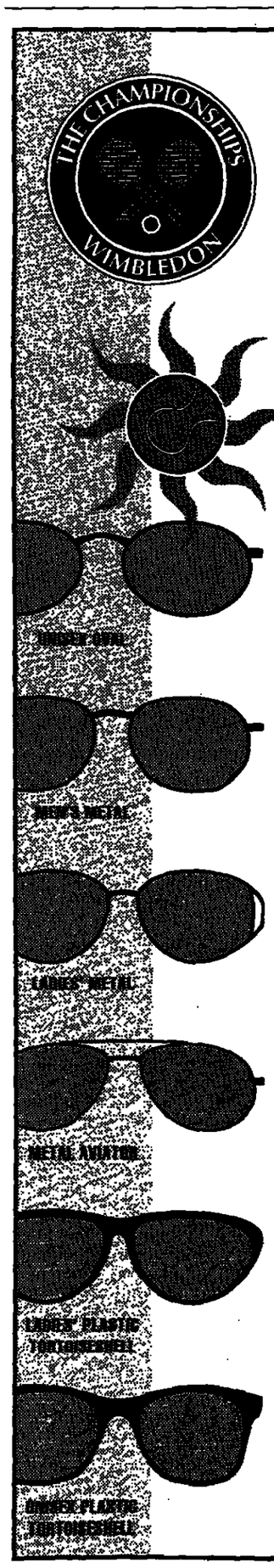
Audrey Buttner, deputy leader of the remaining 11 Tories, leader, was so angry she forgot that her party was no longer in control. "I would like to say to the opposition," she began, before the massed ranks of the Labour majority brought her to order.

Even during the formal mayor-making part of the meeting, Mr Caplin could not restrain himself from making a political point. He presented the new mayoress, Rene Jordan, the wife of the Tory group leader, Bernard Jordan, with a large bunch of red roses.

Mr Caplin's 21 victorious councillors also broke with Hove tradition by wearing red roses in their buttonholes instead of the fur trimmed blue gowns and tricorn hats which the Tories and Liberal Democrats put on for the occasion.

The only matter on which all seemed to agree was that Mr Jordan was well qualified to become mayor after serving as a councillor for 28 years and attending 134 meetings last year alone. "He never bears malice," said Leslie Hamilton, a Labour member, who seconded his nomination. "He never takes offence."

He will struggle to keep this reputation if the meetings he chairs over the next year are anything like yesterday's.



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Demoralised Scots Tories urged to stand by Major

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND GILLIAN BOWDITCH

SCOTTISH Tories were urged yesterday to unite behind John Major's leadership at the close of their party conference, which was overshadowed by gloom about their election prospects and policy splits.

Sir Michael Hirst, chairman of the Scottish Tories, admitted that morale was low after the worst council election results in the party's history, but said that it was too soon to write the obituary of Scottish Conservatism. He told the conference in Glasgow that the party had a resilience that would enable it to recover and that it remained loyal to the Prime Minister.

Sir Michael, whose future is in doubt after the election debacle, confronted Mr Major's critics and paid tribute to his qualities. "We have not forgotten John Major's leadership during the last election when he went on to confound the pundits and the pollsters by winning more votes than any leader in history.

"He stood by the party and is entitled to expect it to stand by him. For if he was the weak leader that some allege he would have crumpled long since under the onslaught of pressure he has had to face.

"It is high time people stopped selling him short. He has shown immense political courage."

Sir Michael said it was madness for the Tories to go on bickering about Europe and spoke of his despair at the antics of rebel Tory MPs. "The one and only lesson that our party could usefully learn from Labour is the discipline of hunger for power," he said.

His pleas for unity were not heeded by everyone. He was publicly harangued by a Tory councillor at a civic reception in Glasgow on Thursday night. Helen Hodgins of Stirling council, which the party lost in last month's election, accused Sir Michael of poor leadership and of being out of touch with ordinary people.

Alastair Mackenzie, a former chairman of Glasgow Cathcart constituency and a member of the Cathcart five group of rebels, said he had not found the conference uplifting. But the group, which proposed a plan to prevent a general election Tory wipeout, had received a lot of support from individuals.

The party activists' concerns were acknowledged by Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, who said at a fringe meeting that the Tories faced a steeper climb than at any time since 1979. They had to become united again and to be frank with the electorate, admitting disappointments as well as proclaiming successes.

Later, in the conference hall, he attacked the Scottish Nationalists, saying their separatist creed would cost thousands of defence jobs. "The Scottish regiments, instead of being a glorious part of the best army in the world, would become an ill-equipped, low-morale gendarmarie aspiring to little more than the occasional UN mission."

'Communist' benefit regime condemned

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

A SENIOR Tory councillor yesterday attacked "communist" social security rules that render many elderly people ineligible for state-funded care.

Daphne Sleigh, chairman of the Highlands and Islands Council, told the party conference that requiring elderly people with assets of £8,000 or more to pay for their own care meant that many would have to sell their homes. The figure should be raised to £50,000.

The rules gave people little incentive to save for old age or buy a home, because they would be no better off than if they had spent a lifetime on social security. "This is not Conservatism, it's not even socialism — it is communism. I didn't join the party to become a communist," she said.

Tens of thousands of people who could not bring themselves to vote Tory at the local elections were looking to the conference for signals that the party had learnt its lesson. A generation of loyal supporters had believed the Prime Minister when he said that in a Tory Britain the fruits of their labour would cascade down to the next generation. "The reality of the rhetoric for many has turned sour."

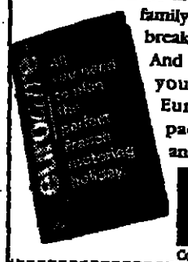
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مقتبس من الأصل

Knife marks found on bones confirm grisly truth of theory dismissed by Dickens

Trapped explorers were forced into cannibalism

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

MEMBERS of the ill-fated Franklin expedition to the Canadian Arctic 150 years ago were forced into cannibalism in a desperate bid to survive.

New evidence has been gathered by Barry Ranford, a Canadian who has led expeditions to search for remains of Sir John Franklin and his 133 men. Of 400 bones found at Erebus Bay on King William Island, 90 showed knife marks, Mr Ranford says, and a third of them had multiple cuts. He has also found evidence which he believes confirms the theory that lead from the tinned food the expedition carried may have poisoned them.

Dr Peter Wadhams of the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, who has led expeditions to the same area, says that he finds Mr Ranford's evidence on cannibalism fairly convincing. "The knife marks certainly look like signs of butchery," he says.

This is not the first time the expedition has been accused of cannibalism. "The charges were first made in 1854 by an expedition led by John Rae," Dr Wadhams says. They found bodies showing evidence of cannibalism. "But his claims were rejected indignantly by everybody — Charles Dickens wrote an article saying that British people simply wouldn't stoop to eating each other."

The Franklin expedition left Britain 150 years ago next week — on May 18 or 19, 1845 — aboard two ships, the *Erebus* and the *Terror*, in search of a passage between the Atlantic and the Pacific. Two years later, with no word of the explorers, searches were launched, but clear evidence of just what had happened did not emerge until 1859 when a final search party, sent by Lady Franklin, reached King William Island.

They found skeletons and a written account showing that the ships had become trapped in the ice in September 1846. By June the following year, Franklin and 24 others had died. The ships were abandoned in April 1848, the survivors heading south on foot. All perished.

In 1992 Mr Ranford discovered the skeletons of at least 11 of them at Erebus Bay. Last year he mapped the positions of all the bones, and had them analysed. The results, given in a lecture at the Royal Geographical Society, have now been published in *Geographical* magazine.

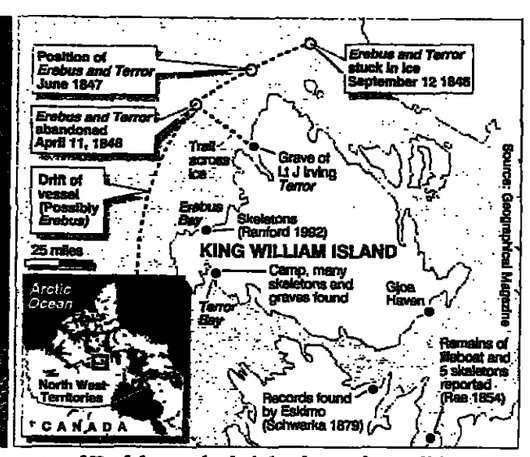
Mr Ranford believes that they settle a long-standing argument over whether the lead solder in the tins contributed to the men's deaths. The analysis showed levels of lead in the bones three to ten times higher than top levels recommended by health organisations, and higher than normal levels of people in British cities in the 1850s.

"We know that the lead accumulated over a short period, which is symptomatic of lead poisoning from food cans, but it could also have been from their cutlery and water containers," he says.

Dr Wadhams says that he is not convinced by this evidence. "It's true the lead levels are high, which is consistent with these people eating preserved meat from tins sealed with lead solder," he says. "But the bones of those who died much earlier, and who would not have eaten so much tinned food, also show high lead levels. It may simply be that 19th-century pollution was so bad that everybody absorbed a lot."

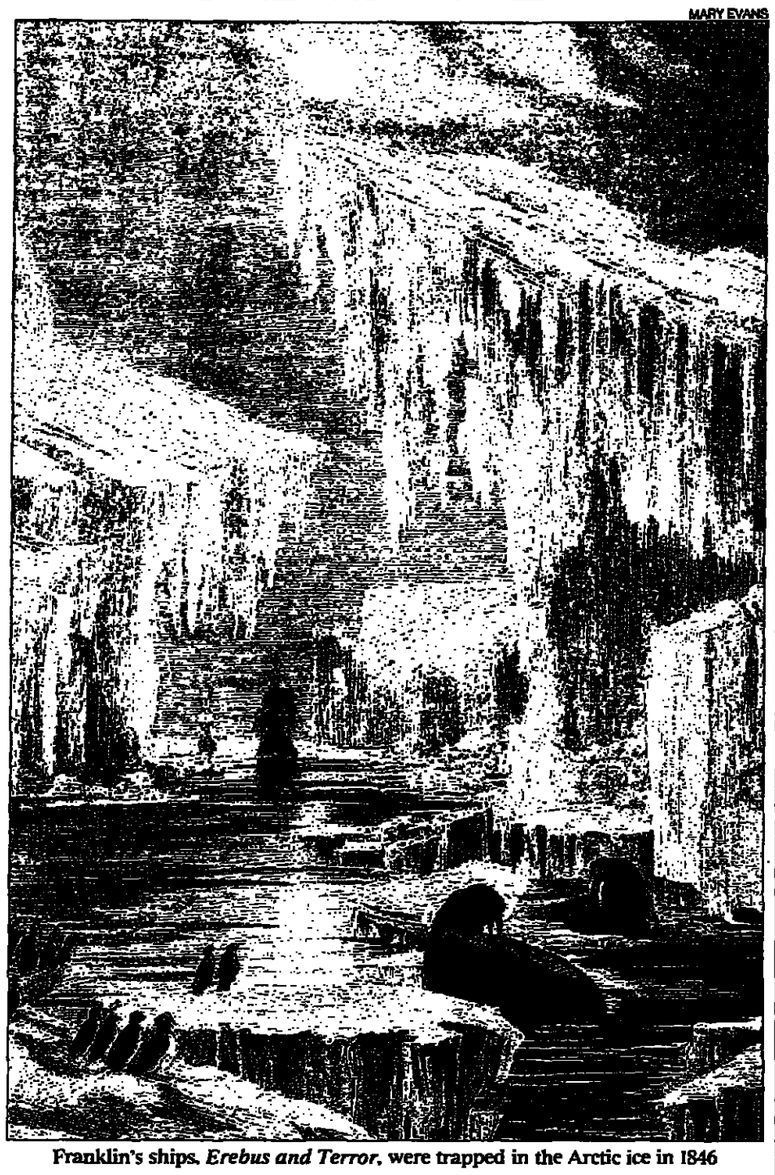
A complete navigation of the North-West Passage had to wait until the 20th century. Between 1903 and 1906 the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen completed the route in his tiny ship *Gjoa*.





Sir John Franklin, a veteran of Trafalgar, who led the doomed expedition

MARY EVANS



Franklin's ships, *Erebus and Terror*, were trapped in the Arctic ice in 1846

Lawyers challenge Taylor's attempt to speed wheels of justice

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chief Justice's order that lawyers must cut waffle and meet tight trial deadlines or incur the cost of delays is running into strong opposition from the influential criminal Bar.

Anne Rafferty, QC, vice-chairman of the 2,000-member Criminal Bar Association (CBA), says Lord Taylor of Gosforth's direction to judges to take a tougher line with lawyers was imposing "unreasonable demands". Ms Rafferty, who is to put the criminal Bar's concerns personally to the Lord Chief Justice, said barristers fully backed the principle of trying to cut costs and delays.

But there was "huge concern" among barristers practising in the criminal courts that if they could not meet those demands, they would be penalised by having to pay costs personally. The new policy, contained in a landmark direction issued by Lord Taylor in January, took no account of how they did their work, she said yesterday.

"It is quite unrealistic to expect criminal barristers to be ready on a fixed day for a pre-trial hearing at Snaresbrook when they are partway through a case at Harrow," she said. "It also assumes that all the papers have arrived, that you have managed to get a conference with the client at Brixton — itself a major hurdle — and that the Crown has served the case fully."

Ms Rafferty, a Crown Court recorder and member of the Criminal Bar Association since 1986, is standing for chairman in the current ballot for the association's office holders. She would be the first woman to hold the post.

Ms Rafferty also highlights the need to tackle the competition for criminal work not just from defence solicitors but in the face of the push by Crown prosecutors for the right to take cases in the higher courts.

She says that the interests of the criminal Bar must be protected on the Bar Council, which recently agreed to lift the ban on barristers speaking to witnesses, in the face of opposition from the CBA. Ms Rafferty is being challenged to the post by Ronald Thwaites, QC, and another CBA committee member, Rock Tansey, QC.

☐ Bar leaders will today discuss how to avert a cash shortage in the profession after the Lord Chancellor and senior judges turned down their request that all barristers be made to pay a subscription to the Bar Council. The proposal that unless barristers pay a subscription they should not be allowed to take cases in court was put forward by Bar leaders facing a £150,000 shortfall. The decision could mean delays in reforms that the Bar Council is anxious to implement, unless it decides to impose an increase in subscriptions for those 95 per cent of barristers who do pay.

*Leading article, page 19
Law Report, page 36

NEWS IN BRIEF

Boy, 16, accused of man's car death

A 16-year-old boy was remanded in custody by magistrates yesterday charged with the manslaughter of a man allegedly knocked down as he tried to stop a stolen car.

Alan Wilde, 46, a father of five, died outside his home at Salford, Greater Manchester. The boy, who cannot be named, is also accused of the aggravated taking of a car.

Freewheeling

Students at Portsmouth University are to be given the use of free bicycles in a £250,000 scheme to reduce traffic congestion. The cycles will be stored at sites across the city and secured with locks operated by plastic cards.

Murder charge

Richard Burton, 30, of Leicester, has been bailed to a secure psychiatric hospital charged with murdering Janice Symons, 57, the separated wife of Professor Martyn Symons, an international expert in radiation chemistry, at her home in Leicester.

Dogs kill sheep

Thirty sheep were killed or put down after two dogs ran amok among a flock of 200 on a farm in Thanington, Kent. The dogs, an Alsatian and a lurcher, have been destroyed and their owner reported. The farmer said the field was like a battle ground.

PC dies in fall

An off-duty police officer fell 150ft to his death while climbing in Snowdonia. The body of PC Martin Chesters, 42, a crime prevention officer based at Willenhall, West Midlands, was found by climbers in Ogwen Valley.

Oh, Mr Porter!

A train driver on the Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth line had to radio ahead for spare trousers after he took his off to cool down and they flew out of the window. British Rail said train cabs often became too hot on sunny days.



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'Better than having an affair but more expensive'



Anne McElvoy meets women from a rundown suburb who buy up to half-a-dozen of the National Lottery scratch cards every day

OUTSIDE a newsagent's shop in the rundown Chapelfields suburb of York, a trail of discarded instant-win scratch cards testified to the wasted hopes of many players. A woman in her early thirties placated her two small children with sweets as she stood on the pavement, scrubbing feverishly at ten cards bought for a pound each. One of them produced a small win, most of which she spent on more cards.

Experts are concerned that the cards are introducing a highly addictive form of gambling into the National Lottery. "Scratch cards are like fuit machines," Dr Emanuel Moran, a psychologist who chairs the National Council on Gambling, said.

"They work on the principle of intermittent reward, which means you win small amounts now and then, which encourages you to go on. You get a wave of excitement from this, which we call the 'heartstopper'. This plays on the principle of habit formation, which is present in us all."

Steven Cooper, the Chapelfields newsagent, sells £2,500 of cards a week. "They're infectious," he said. "I see people buy five or six a day, win a tenner and then continue to play until they lose everything. They are often women from the estate and I know they don't have a lot of spare cash.

"It's not my place to say anything. If I think it's getting out of hand, I'll have a joke with them and gently point out how much they're losing."

A grocery store in the Fulford Road areas of the city is a centre for hopefuls ever since someone won a jackpot of £840,000 on the weekly National Lottery from a ticket bought there last November, in that game's first week.

The manager, Andrew Pierce, who sells £3,700 of cards a week, said: "Unless they win a large amount, they almost always put the money into more cards. There seems to be something that stops people just walking away with their winnings."

Branches of Gamblers Anonymous in London, Sheffield and Manchester have had a wave of calls from people who feel that they are compulsive scratch-card players, including a distraught woman who gambled away all her family housekeeping money. "A quarter of all our calls in the London area in the last two months have been about this," said a spokesman. He believed that scratch cards would increase covert betting. "A hardened gambler is not going to be interested in the weekly draw, because the link between the bet and the result is not so close. But with these cards, you have that little piece of hope right there in your hands."

Camelot, the lottery organiser, has sold £220 million of scratch cards, far beyond its expectations, since they were launched on March 21. The company has introduced a second game, with a lower jackpot and more smaller prizes, to appeal to those might tire of waiting for the £50,000 windfall.

American research suggests that 20 per cent of scratch-card gamblers buy 65 per cent of the tickets. Dr Moran would like to see a moratorium on new games. "My hope is that we can allow the rush on the cards to settle down. But that will not happen unless the promoters are prevented from diversifying their products."



An invitation to win — or lose — at the York shop

Barbara Daly, a housewife on the Chapelfields estate, buys five cards a week. She said: "I enjoy doing this, whereas I wouldn't have the nerve to go to a bookie's or a casino, which are men's places as far as I'm concerned."

Her friend Marjorie said that she did not tell her husband how much she spent on buying cards. "Everybody needs a bit of secret excitement and this is mine. It's better than having an affair."

"But more expensive," Mrs Daly added.

Sue Fisher, a social scientist at Plymouth University, who monitors gambling trends in Britain, said that the anonymity of scratch cards was a draw to women and young people. "You don't have to know the rules of the game, it isn't male dominated or associated with taboo places and there is no evidence that you've ever done it," she said.

Dr Fisher wants a national study of the effects of gambling liberalisation, which includes bigger top prizes in lotteries and bingo, lowering the minimum age for gambling to 16 and introducing Sunday betting.

The 1969 Gaming Act proceeded from the assumption that demand should not be stimulated. "Now," Dr Fisher said, "there is a huge encouragement to bet and it is sanctioned by the Government itself. We were sold the idea of a soft, passive lottery draw, a harmless flutter for everyone, but we may find that we have got much more than we bargained for."

Both sides vow to fight on for right to jackpot won on Instants scratch card game

Woman can spend half of disputed £50,000 lottery win

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT AND ALEXANDRA FREAN

A WOMAN whose bank account was frozen because of a dispute with her former boyfriend over a lottery scratch card win was told by a High Court judge yesterday that she could spend half the money.

Carole Cartman, 34, from Nottingham, claims she is entitled to the whole £50,000 win on National Lottery Instants in April. Stefan Broniewski, 26, claims that he is entitled to half the money as he gave Miss Cartman the cards.

Last week Miss Cartman's bank account was frozen by the court, but Mr Justice Latham, sitting in chambers at Lincoln, ruled that Miss Cartman could have access to £25,000. The remaining £25,000 will stay frozen pending a further High Court hearing in Nottingham.

Miss Cartman won the prize after scratching 23 Instants cards. She won an initial £50 prize and purchased ten more cards, among which was the £50,000 winner. Mr Broniewski, who owns a café, claims that he gave Miss Cartman the 23 lottery cards and that the pair agreed they would share any winnings. But when she won the jackpot she refused to share the money and forced him out of their Nottingham home, he says.

Miss Cartman, who has five children aged between one and six, said after the hearing that she would continue to fight for the other £25,000. "It might take a year to get the case settled, but it's my money. I paid for the card and I scratched it. He's not entitled to any of the cash. The man has shown his true colours and I have found out he is just greedy."

She said she would spend the money she had been given on her children. "Now I'm going home to get some things for the kids and the house. After that I'm going to take the children to Disneyworld. So some good will have come out of it," she said.

Mr Broniewski said after the judge's ruling that he would continue to fight for his share. "As far as I'm concerned she's entitled to half and she can have it with pleasure. I know what really happened. That card was bought with my money and that's all there is to it."

☐ Camelot, the National Lottery organiser, is planning to launch a second weekly televised draw for the main game early next year.

Jackpots for the second draw, to be broadcast on BBC1 on Wednesday evenings, are expected to reach £2 to £3 million, considerably smaller than the present £8 million jackpots. Tickets will go on sale between Sunday and Wednesday evenings. The lottery's existing Saturday night draw will remain.

A spokesman for Camelot said that the company hoped that the second draw would help to even out sales during the week. At present 70 per cent of sales take place on Fridays and Saturdays, causing crowding problems. Camelot and the BBC are also developing a television lottery game show, to be launched in the autumn, based on the Instants game.

It emerged yesterday that nearly £18 million of prizes from the lottery are still waiting to be claimed.

More than £622,856 of the unclaimed winnings come from the first draw on November 19. As there is a 180-day deadline for collecting lottery prizes, players have until midnight next Wednesday to claim first-draw winnings. The winning numbers from the first draw were: 30, 3, 5, 44, 14, 22 (bonus number 10). Money not collected by then, will be given, with interest, to the five good causes to benefit from the lottery: the arts, charities, sports, heritage and the millennium celebrations.

DOUG MARKE



Cartman: "He's not entitled to any of the cash". Broniewski: "That card was bought with my money"

Musical scholars trace Haydn's unknown gem

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A PREVIOUSLY unknown work by Haydn is to be given its first performance in more than 200 years. The Divertimento in G, one of his earliest compositions, has been pieced together from eight sources.

Manfred Huss was among musicians and scholars whose detective work tracked down various copies of the work in monasteries and castles near cities such as Dresden and Salzburg. He will be conducting the Haydn Sinfonietta of Vienna at the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, the very hall in which Haydn received his doctorate in July 1791.

Mr Huss said there may be many more divertimenti to be discovered, as Haydn's letters refer to him having composed dozens of them.

The leading Haydn scholar, H.C. Robbins Landon, said that dozens of other Haydn manuscripts were likely to surface in the light of political changes in Eastern Europe. "In Prague in 1958, I found 12 lost works in two weeks," he said. "They had been lying around in the Prague Academy." But, he said, the manuscripts are likely to be smuggled out and quietly sold.

He described the most recently found divertimento, which is about 20 minutes long, as a "very pretty" work. He added: "It will win a lot of friends for Haydn, just as Mozart's have in the past ten years."

Mr Huss said: "This work dates from the very early period of composing, between 1750 and 1765." He added that the listener would recognise Haydn from the first four bars, despite it being one of his earliest pieces. "It was the end of the baroque period when he composed it. This is in an entirely new, classic style. So fresh."

Another Haydn manuscript that recently surfaced comes up for sale at Sotheby's next week. Up to £750,000 is expected for the working draft of his four string quartets, Opus 50, Numbers 3, 4, 5 and 6, described by Professor Robbins Landon as "this crucial series of quartets". Such is the excitement over the manuscript that Sotheby's refers to it as the most important Haydn manuscript to be offered since the Second World War.

The manuscript first emerged in Australia in 1982: a woman approached experts at a Haydn Festival in Melbourne and showed them what she had kept in a padded brown bag under her bed. It had been in her family for more than 100 years, after being bought in London.

Although they knew it was by Haydn, she had no idea that scholars had considered it lost. More than a decade later, she has decided to sell it. "It is not doing anybody any good in a bank vault," she said.

The Sheldonian concert takes place on June 5. Sotheby's sale will be held on May 18.



Haydn: early work

EU drivers to be given plastic photo licence

FROM MICHAEL DYNES IN BRUSSELS

A PLASTIC, credit-card sized driving licence, incorporating a photograph of the driver, is to be introduced in the European Union from July 1996, the European Commission announced yesterday.

It will be up to each EU country whether to introduce the licence — and whether it will replace the existing pink paper licence or be used alongside it.

The information required about the driver and vehicle will be the same in all 15 EU member states, so that a licence issued in one country will be recognised in all others. National licensing authorities will also be able to include additional information, such as security features to prevent misuse, after approval from Brussels.

The reverse of each licence will carry an exhaustive list, in symbolic form, of the types of road vehicle which can be licensed in the EU. Licences will be available in one of the 11 official languages, or in a combination of one official language and one local language, such as English and Welsh.

The Commission decided to introduce the option of a plastic credit-card style driving licence after the accession to the EU of Sweden and Finland in January. Both countries already have the new format licences, and were reluctant to reintroduce paper licences. Photographs were incorporated into the new design at the request of Britain, a move that also had the backing of Neil Kinnock, the European Transport Commissioner.

The new European licence could later be modified to incorporate a microchip capable of storing information such as the number and type of the holder's driving offences, in addition to the personal details currently required by the licensing authorities. But this would require new EU legislation to protect privacy, Commission officials said.

Seeking to fend off criticism from civil liberties groups, the Commission insisted that the move entailed "no infringement, potential or otherwise, of civil liberties". The new licence "may not replace or double-up as an official identity card," the Commission said. It is up to each licence-holder to decide if they want to use it as "a source of information for personal identification".

☐ Nearly two-thirds of the public would support the introduction of identity cards, according to an opinion survey being broadcast today on BBC Radio 5 Live's *Crime: the True Story*. The Government is shortly to publish a Green Paper on the idea.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Terrorism sentence appeals refused

Two men jailed over a planned bombing campaign yesterday failed to convince the Court of Appeal that their prison terms were too long.

Martin McMonagle, of Limerick, who led a group affiliated to the Irish National Liberation Army, and Liam Heffernan, of Belfast, were arrested at a quarry in Somerset in 1993 as they prepared to steal explosives. The British security services had infiltrated the group. McMonagle and Heffernan were jailed by the Old Bailey for 25 years and 23 years respectively for conspiring to cause explosions.

Editor for trial

Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, has been given leave by the High Court to seek the committal to prison of Piers Morgan, the *News of The World* Editor, over an article about a man awaiting trial. A hearing will also be asked to jail Roger Insall, a reporter, and to fine News Group Newspapers Ltd, publishers.

Burglar's loss

A burglar who spent six weeks on bail buying back the antiques he had sold at a car boot sale escaped a prison sentence at Teesside Crown Court. John Walsh, 37, from Dalton, North Yorkshire, was given 240 hours' community service and fined £850 after he returned £3,000 of china stolen from a local antiques dealer.

Boy detained

Two 14-year-old boys who appeared before magistrates 12 times over two years and were responsible for burglaries involving £380,000 worth of goods appeared before Nottingham Crown Court. Michael Reynolds, from Ashfield, was sentenced to three years' detention. The other boy was remanded back into custody.

Wish granted

Church authorities have overturned a vicar's ruling that John Blackmore could not be granted his dying wish to be buried alongside the rest of his family. He had moved six miles from where he was born in Broadhembury, Devon, outside the parish to Willand. His son Bernard, 50, had appealed to the Queen.

Car feud death

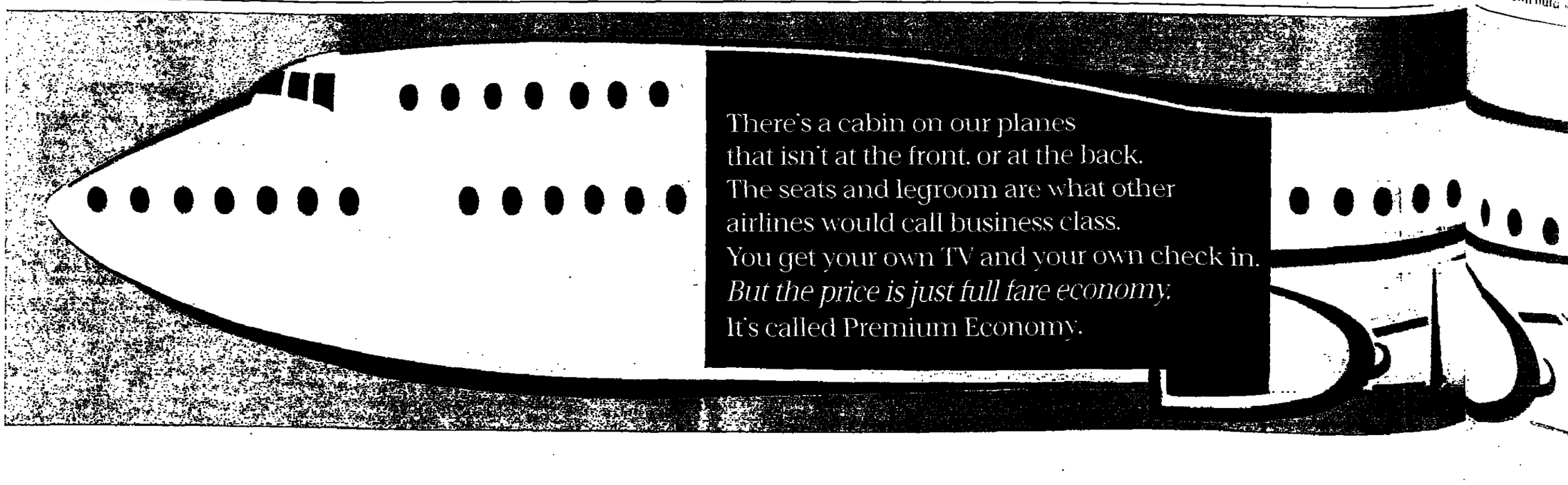
A man who killed his best friend after an argument about whose car was faster was jailed for seven years for manslaughter by Cardiff Crown Court. Martin Clayton, 24, a decorator from St Mellons, stabbed Darren Carr, 23, outside a pub after being teased about the car he had bought a month earlier.

Thatcher ban

Mark Thatcher's biography has been banned because of eight words offending Souad M. al-Sabah, a Kuwaiti princess. Mr Justice Blofeld at the High Court ordered the withdrawal of *Thatcher's Gold* after a hearing in chambers. Simon & Schuster, the publishers, will have to pay legal costs of about £25,000.

Bubble returns

A building company boss has bought back for £5,000 the Messerschmitt bubble car he sold in 1965 for £65. Roy Young, 48, of Monmouth, Gwent, saw the three-wheeler at a classic car auction in Birmingham. He had spent several years trying to trace it through the Messerschmitt owners' club.



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BRIEF

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Ukraine delighted by Clinton pledge on military ties

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN KIEV

PRESIDENT CLINTON was given a rapturous welcome by thousands of Ukrainians when he spoke at the Shevchenko University in Kiev yesterday.

As he left, the crowd pushed forward and almost engulfed him. The atmosphere was in sharp contrast to the chilly and disputatious reception the American leader received in Moscow earlier in the week.

The only jarring note came with a few placards held up by radical nationalist demonstrators calling attention to the Russian war in Chechenia and accusing Washington of weakness and even treachery. "Clinton: You have sold Eastern Europe to Russia!" one of them read.

A more cheerful tone was sounded by students with Elvis Presley hairstyles who carried banners with the face of the rock'n'roll king and marched through the crowd, announcing that they were showing their respect for American culture.

As in all new love affairs, not everything said in the American and Ukrainian speeches yesterday was to be taken seriously by outsiders. Announcing the award of an honorary doctorate to Mr Clinton, a student representative called him "an outstanding political leader of the 20th century".

For his part, Mr Clinton described Ukraine as one of the oldest nations in Europe. He said that the United States and Ukraine had been allies in the Second World War, and added that in 1945 American troops had linked up with the "First Ukrainian Army" on the Elbe. He presumably meant the First Ukrainian Front of the Soviet Army: under Soviet rule, Ukraine was not generally encouraged to have its own armies.

In a statement that is bound to cause concern in Moscow, Mr Clinton pledged increasing military co-operation between America and Ukraine. "We will increase defence contacts between our nations, consult with each other as Nato prepares to expand, and foster military co-operation between our peoples", President Clinton said. The Ukrainian Government and industrial managers have been pressing hard for several months to be allowed access to international arms markets and to begin co-operation, especially in space technology.

Mr Clinton thanked Ukrainians for their "courageous decision" to give up the nuclear missiles they inherited from the Soviet Union, saying that without that the extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty would not have been possible. "I am proud of the leadership of the United States in securing the passage of that treaty, but I am also proud of Ukraine, and you should be proud too," Mr Clinton said.

He expressed strong political support for President Kuchma and his economic reforms, speaking of his "bold and far-sighted leadership". Mr Clinton pointed to the $2.7 billion (£1.7 billion) in aid from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund provided with American encouragement, and promised to urge the other members of the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations to provide more aid at their meeting in Canada next month.

Standing beside Mr Clinton during his visit, President Kuchma has seemed at times barely able to contain his delight. The two men have made a strange physical contrast. The enormous President Clinton, with his protuberant jaw and easy smile, looms over the minute Mr Kuchma with his protuberant nose that makes him look rather like an amiable garden gnome that the American leader had brought with him for company.

Mr Clinton told the crowd at the university that he knew of the economic suffering and insecurity in Ukraine caused by economic reform and said that "the toil is bitter, but the harvest is sweet, and in time will give you and your children the chance to realise your God-given potential".

President Clinton went on from the university to the memorial at the ravine of Babi Yar where up to 200,000 mainly Jewish people were murdered by the Nazis and their Ukrainian auxiliaries during the Second World War. He flew back to Washington last night.



President Clinton speaks yesterday at the Babi Yar memorial in Kiev. Up to 200,000 people, mostly Jews, were murdered there during the war

Dole condemned for criticising President abroad

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATS and White House officials reacted angrily yesterday to Republican charges that President Clinton's summit in Russia was a flop.

Although Democrats conceded that little was accomplished, they said it was an ill-mannered and unprecedented breach of protocol to criticise the President while he was still abroad. They accused the Republican Senate leader, Robert Dole, of trying to gain points for his presidential campaign by describing the summit as a failure.

"We very much regret the comments of Senator Dole," said Leon Panetta, the White House Chief of Staff. "I think they were spoken more as candidate Dole than Senate leader Dole".

Mr Dole, unrepentant, repeated his accusation on the Senate floor and said that Republicans controlling Congress would be looking closely at American aid to Russia, which is running at more than $800 million (£513 million) a year. Some of the aid may be halted, Mr Dole said.

According to Mr Dole, it was not partisan politics to say the summit made little progress but simply a review of the facts. President Yeltsin still intended to sell nuclear technology to the "outlaw regime" in Iran and Russian helicopters had fired on civilians in Chechenia just minutes after the summit concluded. Also, the issue of Nato's expansion was unresolved.

Another Republican senator, Mitch McConnell, who is the chairman of a Foreign Aid Committee, said it was an embarrassment that the President "went to Moscow to watch a parade at President Yeltsin's behest and brought home nothing".

President Clinton steadfastly ignored any questions about the issue as he posed for photographers during his visit to Kiev yesterday. However, his press secretary, Mike McCurry, accused the Republicans of "making political hay".

Beverly Hills offers a little Moore art to the masses

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

BEVERLY HILLS, where art is usually bought first and enjoyed later, has unveiled a startling attempt to bring sculpture to the masses.

Removing the muslin sheets from nine monumental statues placed on the manicured lawns of the Rodeo Drive shopping district, the mayor declared yesterday Henry Moore Day, in honour of the British sculptor who died in 1986.

Moore would probably be pleased with the venue for the largest public exhibition of his work to be held in the Los Angeles area since 1973. "Sculpture is an art of the open air," he once wrote. "I would rather have a piece of my sculpture put in a landscape, almost any landscape, than in, or on, the most beautiful building I know." Only one item in the exhibition is indoors; a burnished 1985 bronze that will spend the next three months reflecting the gilded rotunda of Beverly Hills city hall, and the curious stares of its employees.

The remaining sculptures will bathe in the sunlight Moore thought suited them best, six of them on the verge of Santa Monica Boulevard, one of the city's most famous arteries. These works, including eight more bronzes and a 1,200lb reclining figure in Roman travertine marble, span four decades of the artist's career.

A total of 70,000 cars will drive past them each day, according to the manager of the private gallery that has assembled the exhibition. Whether their drivers will pause to look is another matter; as it passes through Beverly Hills, Santa Monica Boulevard is a thundering six-lane highway where no stopping is allowed.

This is of no concern to Clarence Smith, 56, who lives out of a supermarket trolley and spent the eve of the exhibition's opening bellowing at traffic from a bus stop opposite a shrouded "Two-Piece Reclining Figure: Points", an abstract bronze of a headless woman sculpted by Moore in 1969.

Asked if he would wait to see the sculpture unshrouded, Mr Smith replied: "I'll be here. Maybe I'll go down the street and come back again, but when the sun comes up I'll be here."

The sculptures, five of them airlifted to Los Angeles from Europe, are on display until August 15.



Moore: liked his work to be shown outdoors

Portugal's royal pretender to marry

FROM MARTHA DE LA CAL IN LISBON

DOM DUARTE PIO, the 23rd Duke of Braganza and the pretender to the throne of Portugal, will marry Isabel Ines de Castro Curvello de Heredia today in the 15th century Jeronimos Monastery church in Lisbon.

She is a 28-year-old assistant director of a management firm and descendant of Spanish noblemen who came to Portugal in the 15th century. The duke, who will be 50 the day after the wedding, has eased fears of monarchists concerned that there was no heir to the throne.

The guest list runs to 1,700 people, including the Portuguese President, Prime Minister and all of the Government. Members of the royal families of France, Luxembourg, Spain, France and others are also invited.

The wedding is being treated as a royal wedding, the first in Portugal in 110 years, even though he is only the pretender to Portugal's now extinct throne.

The title dates from 1440 when it was bestowed by King João I on his bastard son by the beautiful daughter of a Jewish shoemaker in the town of Guarda. The Dukes of Braganza did not come to the throne until 1640 when the Spanish usurpers Philip II and his sons, who had ruled from 1580, were overthrown. The Braganzas governed until 1910. In 1908 the king was assassinated along with his heir, and the younger son was able to hang on to power for only two years. He and the family went into exile in England. The Duke was born in the Portuguese legation in Berne, Switzerland. He attended the Military Academy and the Higher Institute of Agronomy in Lisbon and served as a helicopter pilot in Angola between 1968 and 1971.

The Duke is an ardent environmentalist and a defender of human rights in Portuguese East Timor and the former Portuguese territories in Africa. He is also involved in the preservation of Portugal's cultural heritage.

These views will be put to test at the church where he will be married. Since April 25 archaeologists, historians, parliamentarians and others have been staging a peaceful demonstration against the building of a dam on the Côa River in the north of Portugal that will submerge 20,000-year-old rock engravings. The demonstrators set up nine tents on the grass in front of the Archaeological Museum, adjoining the church, with the approval of the museum director.

Yesterday morning police arrived to evict them. They took down one tent, saying the demonstrators were interfering with the wedding. The demonstrators, led by Eurico Figueiredo, a Socialist MP, decided to hold their ground, saying they had nothing against the wedding. "After all," said one, "the monarchy is part of our national heritage."

Yesterday afternoon the Duke of Braganza talked to the demonstrators. "I agree with you," he told them. "I agree with your fight to preserve the rock engravings."



Dom Duarte Pio, the 23rd Duke of Braganza, with his fiancée Isabel Ines de Castro Curvello de Heredia

Harriman gains £12m from sale of three masterpieces

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

PAMELA HARRIMAN, the American Ambassador to France and a prominent member of the Churchill family, has sold three masterpieces at auction in New York in an apparent effort to meet the costs of litigation by her stepchildren.

The paintings by Picasso, Renoir and Matisse fetched almost $19 million (£12.6 million) at Christies on Thursday night, with Picasso's 1922 *Mère et Enfant* bringing in $11.9 million alone.

The auction house said Mrs Harriman, the mother of Winston Churchill MP and daughter-in-law of the late Sir Winston, had followed the sale by telephone and was "very pleased" with the result. Mrs Harriman is believed to want the money to settle suits filed by the daughters of her third husband, the late Averall Harriman, an art collector, politician, financier and former US Ambassador to Britain.

The two stepchildren, now in their 70s, claim that Mrs Harriman has squandered trust funds set up for them after their father's death in 1986 by investing in a former *Playboy* mansion in New Jersey and making other bad financial decisions.

The multimillion-dollar suit has proved a severe embarrassment for Mrs Harriman, a celebrated Washington hostess who was appointed to her present post in Paris after serving as a co-chairman of Bill Clinton's presidential campaign.

Two leading Washington figures who acted as trustees are also named in the litigation — Clark Clifford, former President Johnson's Defence Secretary and special counsel to President Truman, and Paul Warnke, who was also a member of the Johnson Administration.

Mr Harriman gave the paintings to his wife on their tenth anniversary. Some believe that he wanted the paintings to join his bequest of French masterpieces at the National Gallery in Washington when she died.

Chirac juggles demands of a neglected spouse with the ambitions of two loyal lieutenants

Old foes wage new battle



PARIS FILE
by CHARLES BREMNER

IF YOU enjoyed watching the fratricidal duel between Jacques Chirac and Edouard Balladur, his disloyal lieutenant, you will love the new feud now opening under the Gaullist presidency.

Unlike the former clash, in which the Gaullist Premier and party leader kept up appearances of friendship, the new battle pits a pair of would-be presidents who have openly disliked each other since 1979.

On the right is Alain Juppé, 49, the sleek Europhile technocrat and acting Gaullist leader whom President Chirac is expected to appoint Prime Minister next week. On the left is Philippe Séguin, 52, the rotund parliamentary boss, passionate anti-Maastricht orator, and pillar of the Chirac campaign. He thinks he deserves the premiership. Both sport giant egos and very thin skins.

As M Chirac put together his team this week, the volcanic M Séguin nursed his wrath in the Hôtel Lassay, the palace he inhabits as President of the National Assembly. He is brooding in Shakespearean fashion over the wrong that the ungrateful Jacques seems about to inflict on him. If, as suspected, the cerebral M Juppé is confirmed in the premiership and party leadership, his *frère-ennemi* will be out to ambush his Government if it fails to enact M Chirac's pledges for a break with the economic orthodoxy of the past 12 years.

"Juppé is a Balladurian technocrat," growls the chain-smoking M Séguin. "We'll be back to the same elite."

For 16 years these two spiritual heirs of M Chirac have vied for future leadership. While M Juppé, the outgoing Foreign Minister, has steered a flawless track in M Chirac's wake, the eloquent M Séguin has trodden a turbulent path.

A *pied noir* from Tunisia and graduate of the Ecole Nationale d'Administration, he built a political fiefdom in the Vosges and served as a minister in the 1980s before briefly rebelling against M Chirac. Stardom came when he led the drive against the Maastricht treaty, winning the support of 49 per cent of the electorate in the 1992 referendum.

M Chirac's espousal of the Séguin creed is credited with turning the tide in the presidential campaign. He borrowed M Séguin's own catchphrases to attack the "social fracture" and the *pensée unique* of the technocrats. He corralled the votes of the young and the unemployed by flirting with M Séguin's *autre politique*, his recipe for adopting a reflationary approach similar to Britain's.

M Séguin believed he deserved a big reward, but M Chirac seems to have opted for the safe bet, favouring the reassuring M Juppé. Among other reasons, he knows that a Séguin premiership would cause apoplexy in Germany and upheaval on the financial markets. Unwilling to contemplate service under his rival, M Séguin is understood to have told his boss he prefers to stay on in parliament. There he would supervise reforms aimed at giving more power to what is now a toothless institution.

Trying hard to balance the powers of his two barons, M Chirac offered M Séguin the chance to succeed him as Mayor of Paris but he turned it down, preferring to keep his independence. M Juppé, meanwhile, is to become Mayor of Bordeaux.

M Séguin is already on the warpath, incensed at M Chirac's apparent desire to have M Juppé confirmed as Gaullist leader in the autumn. "Jacques absolutely has to find a way to keep Philippe from blowing him up," said a *Séguiniste* MP.



President-elect Chirac and his wife, Bernadette, in Paris yesterday

First family comes under microscope

FOR nearly 14 years, France turned a blind eye to the colourful private life of President Mitterrand. With the taboo fading a little, the Chirac family is coming in for closer scrutiny, though not on the soap operatic level of American first families. Even *Le Monde*, the most august of establishment organs, noted on its front page this week that all was not roses between Jacques and Bernadette.

Like much of France, the newspaper had been startled by a candid radio interview in which the new *première dame* complained about her husband's neglect of their marriage. "Since he has been in politics our private life has been relatively restricted. I now expect a very frank and authentic dialogue, of the kind that exists in a normal couple," she said.

Mme Chirac, 61, is normally the soul of discretion but she has been known to put her foot down publicly before, sometimes treating her hyper-energetic husband like a wayward teenager. The image is one she aired herself last month, calling him a spoilt child.

As the Chiracs pack up their household at the Hôtel de Ville for the move to the Elysée Palace, the limelight has also turned to Claude, the 31-year-old daughter whose efforts as campaign organiser did so much to get him elected. For months she had shunned publicity and said she planned to leave France for a new life once her father was elected. Now a media star in her own right, she is said to be having second thoughts and contemplating another job with Dad.

Reckless drivers await pardon

Road deaths in France have rocketed in the past two months and everyone, from the police to the man in the bistro, knows exactly why. Anticipation of the traditional amnesty by new presidents has caused drivers to throw the highway code to the wind.

Most of the 16 per cent rise in deaths in March was attributable to speeding, which is not surprising, given the free-for-all engendered by the amnesty. Expect four more days of more reckless than usual driving. Unless he wants insurrection, President Chirac will, like his predecessors on taking office, forgive all outstanding parking tickets and motoring offences other than drink-driving and causing death or injury.

Court questions Claes over bribes

FROM MICHAEL DYNES IN BRUSSELS

WILLY CLAES, the Nato Secretary-General, was interrogated by Belgium's highest court yesterday over his alleged role in Belgium's multimillion-pound defence contract corruption scandal, which has led to the resignation of four senior ministers during the past 16 months.

Mr Claes, Belgium's former Economic Affairs Minister, has been linked to allegations that Agusta, the Italian helicopter firm, used a £1 million slush fund to bribe leading Flemish Socialists to win a defence contract to supply helicopters to the Belgian Army in 1988.

Parliament last month voted overwhelmingly to grant the court the authority to cross-examine Mr Claes and two other senior politicians, after revelations of corruption in high places rocked Belgium's political elite. Mr Claes's private and official residences were immediately searched by police.

It is understood that Mr Claes was questioned about a payment of £1.15 million to the Flemish Socialist Party shortly after the Italian company was awarded the £1 billion helicopter contract. After earlier denials, Mr Claes admitted that he had been notified that Agusta had offered his party a "gift" which said he had declined.

The bribe was offered to Etienne Mange, the former party treasurer, who told his lawyers that he decided to ignore Mr Claes's advice and accept the money. Mr Mange, along with three other defendants, has been in jail in Liège since February. Three more party members have since been charged with bookkeeping irregularities, including Carla Galle, the long-time companion of Karel van Miert, the European Competition Commissioner.

The court's cross-examination comes at an awkward time for Mr Claes, who faces an exceptionally heavy Nato workload, including overseeing the alliance's response to the deteriorating situation in the former Yugoslavia. He is due to travel to Athens and Ankara next week to help to resolve the Greek-Turkish dispute which has blocked approval of the Nato budget. He is also due to chair a meeting of Nato foreign ministers at the end of the month to review Nato proposals to expand into Eastern Europe.

Mr Claes yesterday refused to respond to reporters' questions as he entered the court. Belgium's Flemish and French Socialist parties have been badly damaged by the Agusta affair. Frank Vandenbroucke, the Foreign Minister, was among those forced to resign. Both parties are both expected to suffer heavy losses in next Sunday's general election.

Aids deaths in Italy increasing

Rome: Aids is becoming as big a killer in Italy as road accidents, the country's statistics institute, Istat, said yesterday.

About 4,370 Italians died from Aids last year compared with some 6,000 road deaths. "For young males aged between 18 and 29, Aids has become the second cause of death after road accidents, overtaking drugs," Istat said.

The number of deaths of women with Aids was much lower than for males, but Italy had the highest level in Europe of babies born with the HIV virus which causes Aids, Istat found. *(Reuter)*

Canada bans Italian pasta

FROM RICHARD CLEROUX IN OTTAWA

HARD on the heels of the Greenland halibut war with Spain, Canada is now going into battle with Italy over pasta.

The Canadian Wheat Board has slapped an embargo on large packages of Italian pasta coming into the country in retaliation to a subsidy of $Can60 (£28) a tonne on pasta exported from Italy which went into effect on April 1. In addition, the European Union decided to allow only 300,000 tonnes of wheat to be imported into EU countries this year.

Roy McLaren, the Canadian Trade Minister, said Ottawa would not have restricted pasta imports from Italy if the Europeans were not subsidising their pasta exports. The pressure for the embargo came from the Canadian Pasta Manufacturers' Association and Canadian wheat farmers who are having difficulty selling their durum wheat to Canadian pasta makers.

The decision affects all packages of more than 1kg (2.2lb), which spares gourmet shops and Italian restaurants.

However, Italian pasta distributors in Canada, wholesale grocers and some Italian restaurants are furious, not to mention pasta producers in Italy, who are threatening to ban all imports of Canadian wheat into the country. In a statement, they called the embargo discriminatory, arbitrary and illegal. Canada annually sells $35 million of wheat to Italy, about half of which comes back to Canada as pasta. The Italians, however, sell 126,000 tonnes of pasta to Canada, worth $22 million, representing 12 per cent of the Canadian market.

However, Italian pasta sales have tripled in Canada in the past three years, and it is this surge that has concerned domestic pasta manufacturers. Among the reasons is that Canadian-made pasta sells for $Can2 per kg, while imported Italian pasta sells for $Can1.20.

So far neither Canada nor Italy have shown any interest in backing down.

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THE TIMES

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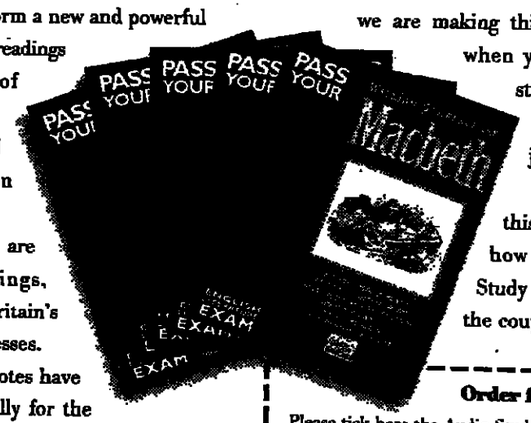
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Enmity proves mother of invention as warring factions construct DIY killing machines

Balkan arsenals made ready for summer offensive

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE BALKANS are awash with ammunition, rockets, missiles, anti-tank weapons, assault rifles and some of the most extraordinary improvised Heath-Robinson killing machines, all ready for what could be a devastating new conflict this summer.

The armies in the three fighting zones — Croatia, Serb-occupied Krajina and Bosnia-Herzegovina — have all been rearming relentlessly over the winter months despite the United Nations embargo. The scene is now set for a potential battle that could see the Bosnian and Krajina Serbs forced to surrender more of the territory they seized at the beginning of this three-year war.

In all wars, improvisation has played an important role, both in terms of tactics and weapon systems. Even armies with the most sophisticated precision-guided weapons and the most highly skilled troops do not win wars by sticking rigidly to the training manual. But the conflicts in Croatia and Bosnia have provided a testbed for some of the weirdest array of improvised equipment ever seen on the modern battlefield.

The most bizarre is a hybrid rocket developed by the Bosnian Serbs which has been launched with lethal effect against the Bihac pocket in northwest Bosnia.

Launched from a crane-like structure, the weapon consists of four 128mm Russian BM21 rockets bracketed together and attached either to a 500lb aircraft bomb or a standard fuel air bomb, called FAB250. Tucked in with the rockets is a Sagger anti-tank guided weapon, whose electronics keep the whole system on the right trajectory.

At the back end of the weapon is a drag parachute which opens out to stabilise the weapon as the rocket motors cut out and the bomb drops to the target.

Peter Felstead, editor of a *Jane's Intelligence Review* newsletter, *Pointer*, said the aircraft bomb uses an impact fuse and the fuel air bomb, which explodes in mid-air above the target, is linked to a barometric fuse which detonates the warhead at a set altitude.

Fuel air bombs were used by the Americans to devastating effect in the 1991 Gulf War to detonate minefields and clear out trenches.

According to United Nations observers, the Serbs' improvised rocket is so powerful that it has demolished whole apartment blocks inside Bihac. The home-made weapon has a range of about six miles. The Serbs were forced to construct a rail launcher on a huge gantry because they have no aircraft capable of delivering such a heavy weapon.

One of these hybrid monsters has apparently been recovered relatively undamaged by a UN observer who is an engineer. Initial reports suggest the weapon has been put together in a sophisticated fashion.

From early on in the war, the different factions learnt how to adapt other weapon systems to provide extra firepower. Serbs have used SAM2 surface-to-air missiles in a direct fire, ground-to-ground role and anti-aircraft weapons have been used in a similar way by all three warring factions.

Much of the weaponry deployed by the different factions is Russian, old and unreliable. In addition, particularly for the Bosnian government (BiH) forces, the scarcity of heavy guns has meant that their limited stocks have been overused. BiH gun barrels are so worn that the Muslims have been forced to shorten the range of most of their howitzers to try to achieve better accuracy. Howitzers capable of firing shells up to 12 miles have been adjusted to an operational range of three to six miles, according to UN military sources.

The oldest weapon spotted by UN observers since the conflict began was a Lewis gun which dates from before the First World War. It was seen in use by Croat militiamen at Vukovar, which was destroyed by a Serb siege in 1991.

However, not all the equipment dates from a past era. The Orkan multiple rocket launcher, which was used by the Krajina Serbs against Zagreb last week and was developed jointly in the 1980s between the former Yugoslavia and Iraq, is also in the hands of the Croatian Army, the Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian government forces.

According to a detailed inventory of weapon systems in the Balkans, published by *Jane's Sentinel* earlier this year, Croatia has 12 of the 262mm Orkans in service, the Bosnian Serbs, five, and the Bosnian Government, six, although only two of the latter are in service. It is possible that with the Croats' rocket fuel plant in Vitez and the BiH arms factory in Novi Travnik, both in central Bosnia, working again, an Orkan assembly line may have been constructed with parts smuggled from Iraq.

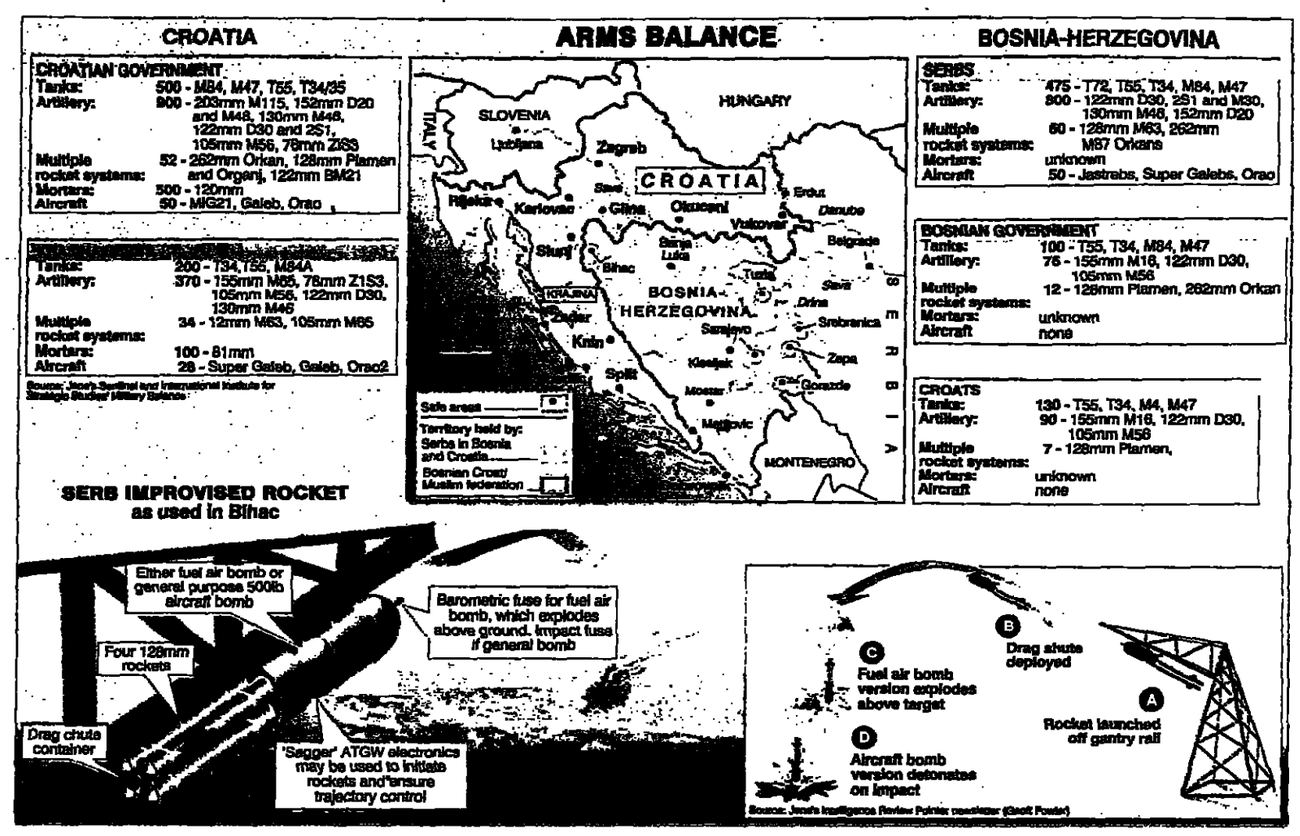
It is not known when the Krajina Serbs acquired their Orkan but with its ability to scatter anti-personnel sub-munitions, it proved to be an effective terror weapon for the residents of Zagreb.

Other more advanced weapons that have been brought into the conflict and pose a significant threat to the UN Protection Force peacekeepers as well as those involved in the fighting, include the American Stinger anti-aircraft missile, which has been acquired by the Croatians, the Bosnian Serbs and the BiH; the German-designed Armbrust anti-tank rocket system, first spotted being used by the Croats in Bosnia; the Russian RPG22 anti-tank rocket seen in Croatia and Bosnia, and China's latest wire-guided missile, the Red Arrow 8, known to be in the hands of the BiH.

The largest amount of smuggled weaponry is destined for the Bosnian government forces. Thousands of tonnes of ammunition, assault rifles, grenade launchers and anti-tank missiles have been delivered to BiH forces by air into Croatia and then on by road into Bosnia.

One of the most effective weapons systems throughout the war both in Croatia and in Bosnia has been the mortar, particularly the large 120mm version. The Croatian Army is believed to have about 500 120mm launchers.

There are no authoritative estimates of the number of 120mm mortars in Bosnia. However, UN observers have noted how clever all the factions are at concealing their heavy mortar positions with the use of camouflage, making it impossible for US satellites to pinpoint them.



Croat church blown up

BOSNIAN Serbs blew up a Roman Catholic church yesterday in the latest attack on a Croat minority area in Serb-held Bosnia (Michael Evans writes). Miljenko Anicic, a representative of the Catholic bishop in Banja Luka, said the parish house in Presnace was also destroyed in the explosion and the local priest and nun were missing. A church and Franciscan monastery were bombed last Sunday, killing an elderly friar.

United Nations officials said the Serb action appeared to be in retaliation for last week's Croatian army offensive against Serbs in western Slavonia.

Serbs prefer destitution to Zagreb rule

FROM ANTHONY LOYD
IN PAKRAC, CROATIA

IN AN embarrassing blow to Zagreb's showcase diplomatic initiative, the majority of Croatian Serbs remaining in Western Slavonia appear certain to choose to live as refugees in Bosnia rather than integrate as Croat citizens.

Western Slavonia, seized from the secessionist Croats three years ago in weeks of heavy fighting, was styled by the Serbs as part of the Serbian Republic of Krajina until last week's successful Croat offensive reclaimed the land as part of Croatia.

Up to 5,000 Serbs remain in the area, some as detainees awaiting investigation for possible war crimes, others on the run in the region's thick forests, but the majority as the frightened inhabitants of a new country run by people they had fought to be free of in 1991.

Meanwhile, the United Nations, its original peace-keeping mandate in western Slavonia annulled by the Croat victory, has again been cast as an uneasy agent of population removal as it orchestrates the Serb exodus at the request of the Croat and the Serbian authorities.

Bavarians protest at beer ban

Bonn: Thousands of angry, thirsty Bavarians marched through Munich yesterday in protest against a court ruling that a famous beer garden, the Waldwirtschaft, must close at 9.30pm because of noise problems, making a mockery of the annual Oktoberfest (Roger Boyes writes).

Senior politicians including Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, have joined the protest. Even Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, contrived to have an appointment in Munich yesterday. Although a wine drinker, Herr Kohl is said to be in sympathy with the protesters. Beer sales were banned for the protest.

Mystery disease killing sardines

Sydney: Marine scientists are battling to identify a mystery illness that has left millions of sardines dead along the Australian coast (Vivienne Horner writes).

The latest finds were off Merimbula, New South Wales, but similar discoveries have been made on beaches in Albany, Western Australia. The fish die with their gills displaying unusual lesions that produce mucus, impairing the intake of oxygen and eventually causing death by suffocation.

Crackdown on vice in Tibet

Peking: China's crackdown on vice has reached Tibet, with 111 prostitutes and pimps being rounded up in a recent police blitz in Lhasa, the capital. Nearly 70 gamblers were also arrested and a hall where pornographic videos were shown was closed in a city-wide raid involving 250 police officers, the *Workers' Daily* reported. The alleged head of a gang forcing girls into prostitution was among those arrested. *(AFP)*

Taiwan goes for museum record

Taipei: The world's biggest *Guinness Book of Records* museum is to open outside Taiwan's capital. The 4.8-acre indoor and outdoor display will be five times bigger than London's *Guinness* museum, and will show more than 100 items from the *Book of Records*, including full-scale models of the world's tallest man, smallest bicycle, longest car and biggest cake. *(Reuter)*

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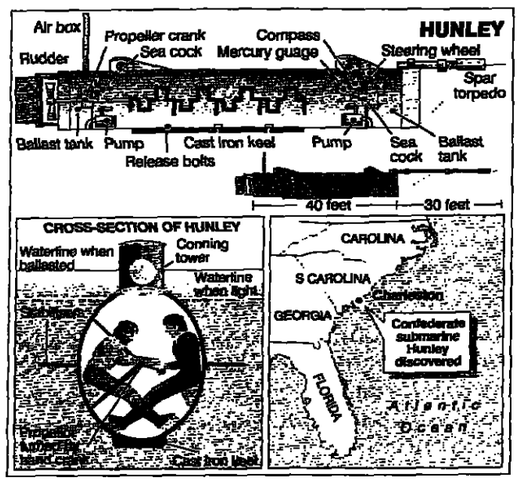
US Civil War sub found intact off coast of Carolina

BY IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON AND ANJANA AHUJA

AMERICAN underwater explorers have discovered a Civil War hulk that 131 years ago became the first submarine in history to sink another ship.

The ill-fated Confederate submarine *Hunley* was found intact in 18ft of water, two and a half miles off Charleston, South Carolina. It was buried under three feet of silt, barnacles and coral. The search was a joint effort by Clive Cussler, author of the novel *Raise the Titanic*, and a team from the University of South Carolina.

The hunt lasted 23 years, at a cost of $250,000 (£160,000), and ended ten days ago when divers using metal detectors found one of the submarine's two primitive conning towers.



"This is the single most important artefact in the history of submarine warfare," said Mark Newell, an archaeologist from the university.

Mr Cussler said yesterday that the encrusted iron shell was intact and could easily be raised to confirm its identity and perhaps solve the mystery of why it sank. The *Hunley*'s final voyage was on the night of February 17, 1864, when it slipped out of Charleston harbour carrying 100lb of gunpowder on the tip of a 20ft wooden spar attached to its bow.

This crude torpedo was rammed into the stern of the Union frigate *USS Housatonic*. Then the *Hunley* backed away and triggered the charge with a rope. The frigate, part of a Union blockade of Confederate ports, sank within five minutes and its crew of five were drowned.

However, the hatch of the *Hunley* was still open, and a shock wave resulting from the explosion sank the submarine. But the submarine was discovered one and a half miles from where the *Housatonic* went down, suggesting that it took some time to sink. Its crew of nine drowned. It was a dramatic finale for a submarine which during trials had sunk three times with the total loss of 30 lives, including Horace Hunley, its designer and builder.

It was to be another 50 years, with the advent of German U-boats in the First World War, before any other vessel fell victim to a submarine.

The *Hunley* was considered so unseaworthy and was so susceptible to swamping in rough weather, or even from the swell of a passing boat, that it was known locally as the "peripatetic coffin". The *Hunley* started life as a boiler, 25ft long. To convert it into a submarine, Hunley turned the boiler on its side, added diving wings and water-ballast tanks for raising and lowering it, and installed a propeller to be driven manually by eight crewmen hunched over a crankshaft that ran the length of the interior.

As if all this was not terrifying enough, the only air supply was through a pipe from the surface. Illumination was by candlelight, which doubled as a warning system if the oxygen gave out. There was no periscope.

The first navigable submarine is generally conceded to have been built around 1620 by Cornelius Drebbel, a Dutchman. It was basically a rowing boat completely covered in leather with oars poking through flexible seals on either side. The first combat submarine was an egg-shaped craft invented by an American, David Bushnell, in 1776. His attempt to blow up a British warship in New York harbour failed, but his principles were used successfully by Robert Fulton for a submarine on the Seine in 1800.

Mr Cussler and Dr Newell said the exact location of their find will not be made public for fear of attracting souvenir hunters. They will try to persuade local authorities to pay for salvaging the *Hunley* so that it can go on display.

Mr Cussler seeks no personal profit from the venture but he does feel vindicated after the long search. "I wish I had a nickel for every time somebody told me I was wasting my time," he said.



Clive Cussler with a replica of the *Hunley*, the 131-year-old submarine he found off the South Carolina coast

Protests by Cuban exiles divide Miami

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

CUBAN-AMERICAN exiles, angered by the Administration's new policy of repatriating Cuban asylum seekers picked up at sea, have launched a campaign of civil disobedience that has divided Miami.

Organisers of Operation Rescue hope to sway public opinion. But they may only be turning it against them. The protests come as anti-immigration sentiment is rising. Florida opinion polls indicate increasing support for tough anti-immigration measures, modelled on California's Proposition 187, which would deny public services to illegal immigrants.

For three decades Cuban "rafters" rescued at sea were allowed to enter with privileged immigration status as victims of President Castro's communist rule. That ended last week when the White House announced the new policy. Under this policy, more than 20,000 Cuban refugees who fled the island last summer, only to end up in American camps at Guantánamo Bay naval base, would be admitted to the United States. But in future, all others would be sent back to Cuba.

A group of 13 rafters were picked up late last week by the US Coast Guard. On Tuesday they became the first to be repatriated to the island.

Many of Miami's one million Cuban exiles who came to the United States as rafters or seeking asylum are outraged. Late last week exile groups joined forces to challenge the policy through civil disobedience. For five days they have created chaos, blocking city streets and motorways in dozens of impromptu, hit-and-run protests, as well as holding a brief strike on Wednesday.

Ramón Sánchez, one of the protest leaders, apologised to residents for the inconvenience. But in the same breath he said that the protests were "just a little sample" of what Cuban Americans can do to disrupt Miami.

The protests seem to have backfired. Irate callers to the city's English-language radio and television stations have complained that Cuban exiles are ungrateful after 36 years of American hospitality. Spanish-language stations are hitting back, accusing critics of racism.

In the midst of the protests an opinion poll indicated 73 per cent support in Florida for a ban on illegal immigrants receiving non-emergency government services, including health and education. The proposal is likely to prompt a referendum next year.

Move to exhume Lincoln's assassin

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

DESCENDANTS of the actor who shot dead Abraham Lincoln are asking a court for permission to dig up his grave to test one of America's oldest conspiracy theories.

A great-grandniece and a third cousin of John Wilkes Booth, who killed President Lincoln in a Washington theatre in 1865, want to confirm that the body under Booth's headstone in Baltimore is in fact his.

Ever since the 16th New York Cavalry trapped and shot a suspect in a burning barn in Virginia 12 days after Lincoln's assassination, rumours have circulated that the man was not Booth.

A popular theory holds that Booth, a Confederate agent in the American Civil War, escaped and went on to live another 38 years in Mississippi, Texas and the Oklahoma Territory before committing suicide. Although most historians dismiss allegations of a 130-year government cover-up as fantasy, the Smithsonian Institution and two other museums have joined the family in seeking permission to exhume the body.



Booth: broke his leg after the shooting

They hope to be able to determine the identity of the corpse by checking for Booth's known physical characteristics, such as the fractured left leg the assassin suffered when he jumped onto the stage after he had shot Lincoln, the sixteenth US President. Lincoln had been re-elected in 1864 with victory for the North in sight, having announced freedom for slaves the previous year.

The conspiracy theory was extensively explained in a 1907 book, *The Escape and Suicide of John Wilkes Booth*, by Finis Bates, a lawyer. He claimed a man named John St Helen confessed to him in 1877 that he was really Booth. Bates believed that Mr St Helen later took the identity David George and committed suicide in Enid, Oklahoma, in 1903.

Mr George's body was mummified and later sold to a carnival, which exhibited it around the country as the real John Wilkes Booth. It has now disappeared.

A total of 25 direct descendants of Booth are supporting the request to exhume his body, as well as three women who claim to be descended from a child he bore a year after his supposed death.

Menem's rival closes gap on eve of Argentine poll

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINIANS will vote tomorrow to decide whether Carlos Menem merits another term as President, or whether to opt for a change.

"It's a decision between backing economic reforms that have given us economic stability or choosing an alternative which promises to ease the pain of austerity measures," said Felipe Noguera, a political analyst.

Predictions published by opinion pollsters have varied. They have indicated that Señor Menem is likely to gain the 45 per cent of the vote he needs to avoid a second, deciding round of polls. Argentine law requires that a candidate has to take 45 per cent, or alternatively 40 per cent of the vote with a 10 per cent lead over the nearest oppponent, in order to win in the first round.

But opinion polls have also shown that the Centre Left coalition candidate, José Octavio Bordón, has managed to win over last-minute support from voters who feel that Señor Menem's free market reforms have included too many harsh austerity measures. "It is not an unlikely possibility that Bordón will force the election into a second round," one pollster said.

Señor Bordón, 50, ended his election campaign yesterday by drumming up support in the Buenos Aires, the capital, Señor Menem's power base. "Economic reforms will stay in place but we will have to focus on job creation and the desperate need to get non-existent health and education facilities to large, remoter parts of the country," Señor Bordón said.

Meanwhile, President Menem, 64, was busy appearing on the main television talk shows to warn voters of an "economic debacle" if the opposition were to come to power. "There would be a return to chaos and unstable currency," Señor Menem said.

He is credited with turning around the economy. When he took office in 1989, hyper-inflation raged and the State was close to bankruptcy. His Finance Minister, Domingo Cavallo, introduced successful anti-inflationary policies and launched a privatisation plan that has helped to reduce the country's foreign debt.

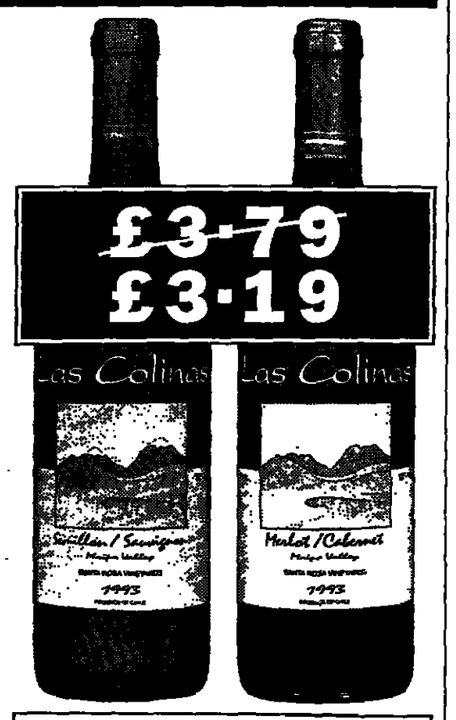
The return of foreign investment to Argentina and a campaign to spruce up the wide avenues, grand opera houses and shopping centres of Buenos Aires have helped to boost national morale. Señor Menem has also worked hard to please the international community by establishing close links with the United States and restoring diplomatic relations with Britain after the Falklands War.

A majority of the 22 million voters are likely to opt for a continuation of economic reforms. But growing fears that a financial crisis, triggered by the so-called "tequila effect" of the Mexican devaluation, is just around the corner, and the mounting discontent over austerity measures may steal votes away from President Menem.

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TENERIFE	16 May	Gatwick	SC	7 Nights	£129
MOROCCO	17 May	Gatwick	HB	7 Nights	£109
IBIZA	17, 24, 31 May	Gatwick	SC	7 Nights	£139
ALGARVE	18 May	Gatwick	SC	7 Nights	£139
HALKIDIKI	18 May	Gatwick	RO	7 Nights	£109
LESBOS	18 May	Gatwick	SC	7 Nights	£119
CYPRUS	18, 19 May	Gatwick	SC	7 Nights	£149
TENERIFE	19, 23 May	Gatwick	SC	7 Nights	£149
TUNISIA	21 May	Gatwick	BB	7 Nights	£139
CORFU	2, 5 June	Gatwick	RO	7 Nights	£139
MOROCCO	24, 31 May	Gatwick	HB	7 Nights	£129
VENETIAN RIVIERA	1, 8, 15 June	Gatwick	HB	7 Nights	£179

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Britons are urged to avoid Zaire as virus fears mount

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

BRITONS were strongly advised yesterday to stay away from Zaire, where an outbreak of Ebola disease has caused rising panic.

As the capital, Kinshasa, tried to cut itself off from virus-infected areas, it became clear that the death toll is lower than first thought and international health experts believe the sickness can soon be brought under control.

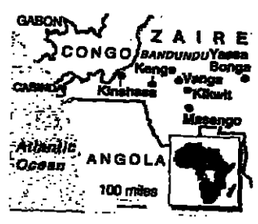
It was reported on Thursday that 170 people had died of the fever, but the World Health Organisation yesterday put the confirmed number of deaths at 48 out of a total of 65 confirmed cases, with the rest now believed to have fallen victim to a number of other diseases with similar symptoms, including a form of dysentery known as red diarrhoea.

In London, the Foreign Office said: "British nationals are strongly advised not to visit or transit Zaire. The Kikwit area of Bandundu province is currently quarantined following an outbreak of Ebola, an extremely dangerous virus, which could spread to other areas."

The health warning reinforces an earlier warning to Britons to avoid the country because of lawlessness following the ethnic killing in Rwanda and Burundi, which border Zaire.

In Kinshasa, the Government closed air, land and river routes to the east of the country to try to protect its largely impoverished residents from the Ebola virus.

Health officials worldwide expressed some optimism, however, that the virus, which kills by destroying the internal organs amid catastrophic haemorrhaging, could be confined to the Kikwit region where it was first reported. Ebola cases have been reported at Masengo, about 70 miles from Kikwit and Yassa Bonga, 155 miles away, but these are believed to be victims who have been transferred to hospitals there from Kikwit.



Medical experts were also investigating reports of cases at Kenge, 130 miles east of Kinshasa, and one unconfirmed case in the town of Vanga, north of Kikwit.

No incidence of Ebola fever has been officially reported in Kinshasa, but the city lacks the resources to cope with it should an outbreak occur. Families live in crowded shanty accommodation in many districts of the capital.

"I don't think there will be a large outbreak," said Eric Verschueren of Médecins Sans Frontières, which has a medical team in Kikwit where the outbreak was diagnosed a week ago.

In addition to the Ebola virus, doctors have diagnosed a form of dysentery caused by the bacteria shigella and commonly known as red diarrhoea because of the heavy bleeding involved. Shigella, transmitted through unhygienic living conditions and unclean drinking water, is curable with antibiotics.

Health workers trying to contain the Ebola outbreak face huge difficulties working in the poverty-stricken Kikwit region.

"It is not very encouraging," said Richard Leclair of the WHO in Geneva.

"There is very poor hygiene and we are bringing in barrier nursing facilities — gloves, gowns, masks and syringes."

WHO's headquarters in Geneva is recommending that no special measures be instituted regarding airline passengers or crew arriving in other countries from Zaire.

In advice aimed at health authorities and airlines, the organisation said: "Persons with the Ebola virus become infectious to others only when they are extremely ill and are already haemorrhaging.

"It is highly unlikely that such persons would try to travel on an international flight, and unlikely that they would be permitted to board if they did try."

Killer viruses panic world

London: The Ebola virus may be little more than a footnote in the history of the war against microbes. A chronology of the most destructive follows:

☐ Pneumonic plague: India reported more than 6,000 cases and 50 deaths last September.

☐ Necrotising fasciitis: Officials estimated up to 450 Americans may have died from it each year from 1989 to 1991.

☐ Hantavirus: This rodent virus killed 44 of the 80 Americans infected in 1992.

☐ Morbilli: Related to measles, morbilli killed 14 horses and their trainer in Australia in 1994. ***(Reuter)***

Firm offers special bedding

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A BRITISH company is offering to help World Health Organisation efforts in Zaire by supplying disposable bedding designed to prevent the spread of infection.

Many of the known cases are health workers, including five nuns, three of whom have died. Christopher Barrow, of Blanket Cover, based in Tonbridge, Kent, says that his unique design of bedding for barrier nursing could help to contain the infection.

It consists of an undersheet, an oversheet and a pillow case made of a polymer bonded to a soft, paper-based material. The soft material can absorb ten times its own weight of liquid while the polymer prevents it reaching the mattress beneath.

Between the two is a reflective layer which keeps the patient warm in cold climates, or reflects heat away at high temperatures. The materials can also be made up into a sleeping bag if required.

Each set of bedding costs £5. It soaks up infected fluids from the body and when used is burnt to destroy the virus. "There is no washing, no drying, and no ironing," Mr Barrow says. "If the patient should die, then it also serves as a bodybag. You can simply bury the body still in its bedding and it will increase the speed of decay, producing enough heat to destroy the organism."

The system has been used by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and for treating Aids patients. The bedding sets are very light, weighing less than six ounces each, making it easy to fly them to emergencies such as that in Zaire.



An image of Siva, the Hindu god of reproduction and destruction, adorns the room of a building owned by the Japanese Aum Shinrikyo sect. The sect has been accused of being involved in the nerve-gas attack on the Tokyo subway on March 20. A Japanese company has begun selling a gas mask, left, which is small enough to fit in a handbag. MSA Japan said that the disposable mask should provide short-term protection against sarin, the gas that killed 12 people and injured 5,500. The 10oz device comprises a nylon bag and filter tube. It will also protect against cyanide — used in an attempted attack on a Tokyo railway station on May 5 — and phosgene, a First World War gas. *(AFP)*

Penetrating sect's secrets

Troops hunt last rebels in ruined Kashmir town

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN CHRAR-I-SHARIF

EXPLOSIONS and fire ravaged the remains of the Kashmir pilgrim town of Chrar-i-Sharif as darkness fell last night.

With two-thirds of the houses destroyed, soldiers were on the streets reportedly engaged in hand-to-hand fighting to kill the last of the separatist gunmen who had taken over the 14th-century mosque.

The nearby shrine, burial place of the patron saint of Kashmir, is a pile of ashes, as is the mosque itself. A mass of razed wooden houses attest to the scale of disaster for a poor farming community that became embroiled in the six-year civil war when separatist militants set up home here last November.

The army has recovered five bodies of gunmen, all bullet-ridden and some badly burnt. Brigadier Mohinder Singh, the commander in charge of operations, said ten to 12 gunmen were left in the town and 23 had been killed. Some had escaped.

He believed that all but a few were Pakistanis, based on information gleaned from captured diaries and intercepted radio messages. Two soldiers had died. He expected the last of the militants to be "flushed out" within days.

As he spoke on a ridge 300ft above the town, there were three explosions several minutes apart. He claimed that the militants were using home-made bombs to keep the town burning.

Bomb-making facilities using fertiliser and other materials had been found. He insisted that the army had not entered the town until after the shrine had caught fire.

India is pulling out the stops to put across its side of events. It always loses the war of words in Kashmir, and the destruction of the shrine, regardless of who did it, is another propaganda defeat for the Delhi authorities.

Tensions in the valley have escalated, the mood of Muslims has hardened, early elections in the state are now all but impossible, and Pakistan is exploiting India's discomfort with customary determination. Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani Prime Minister, called it an act of wanton destruction that showed the lengths to which India would go to subjugate Kashmiri people. In recent days Pakistani television has been running lengthy programmes depicting India as the villain of the Kashmiri crisis.

There is too much disinformation on all sides to unravel the precise chain of events in Chrar-i-Sharif.

However, it does not ultimately matter whether the army has been falsely accused of arson: it matters only that the 3.5 million Muslims of the Kashmir Valley believe soldiers were responsible, further alienating them from India.

Separatist militants have lost much of their popular support, but hatred for what India has done, or is perceived to have done, prevents Delhi from exploiting the hunger for peace.

The army may have torched the town to flush out the gunmen. The gunmen may have done it to inflame tensions, aware that the army would be blamed.

The presence of many Pakistanis in the town belies Islamabad's claim that it does not materially support the uprising, which will sully its reputation internationally.

Israelis call off Vatican land grab

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

BOWING to intensifying international condemnation, Israel announced yesterday that it was abandoning its plan to seize Vatican-owned land in the occupied West Bank to build a new road to the sprawling Jewish settlement town of Har Gilo, near Bethlehem.

The decision, made public by Shimon Shetreet, the Religious Affairs Minister, was one of the most dramatic by the Labour Government since it took power in 1992. His announcement came only hours before the UN Security Council was to begin debating an emergency Arab motion to prevent Israel confiscating 133 acres of mainly Palestinian land in annexed east Jerusalem.

The Israeli scheme to take the Vatican land, part of the grounds of the Cremisan Monastery, had threatened diplomatic links with the Vatican that were established only last year. The plan also threatened to provoke a head-on clash between Israel and the wider Christian world at a time when Israeli land policies are endangering the peace process with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Yediot Ahronot, the Tel Aviv daily, quoted a senior churchman in the Roman Catholic monastery as warning Mr Shetreet: "If the [Vatican] lands are expropriated, it will cause the eruption of an international scandal that will draw in the entire Christian world." Within hours of publication, an apologetic Mr Shetreet was assuring Israel Radio that plans to confiscate the land had reached only "the initial stage" and had now been scrapped. "The road from Har Gilo to Jerusalem will be built without the need to expropriate any land from the Cremisan Monastery."

Leading article, page 19

Ocean epic threatens to swamp Costner's career



Costner in a scene from *Waterworld*

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

KEVIN COSTNER'S forthcoming film *Waterworld* was intended to be neither a comedy nor a disaster movie, but has turned out to be both.

Three months before it is due to open, this epic tale of the ocean starring Costner as a mutant amphibious Ancient Mariner — a sort of muscular merman with gills and stubble — is being described as the greatest damp squib in film history, the "Atlantis of Hollywood" destined to disappear without trace, perhaps taking Costner and his once-glittering career with it.

The film is the most expensive made, with costs expected to reach $180 million (£115 million), roughly double the original estimate. Even Stephen Spielberg's *Jurassic Park* cost just $60 million to make. Filmed principally on location in the Pacific Ocean off Hawaii, *Waterworld* began production in June last year, but with a summer release date looming the film is still unfinished.

Set in a soggy, futuristic world engulfed by the melting of the polar ice caps, *Waterworld* rapidly turned into a logistical horror story: the threat of hurricanes and tidal waves, seasickness among the actors and film support staff and Costner's much publicised divorce all helped to delay production as costs mounted.

In January, one part of the set representing a slave colony sank in the harbour of Hawaii's Big Island. Then it sank again. A stuntman came close to death after he got the bends. Costner's receding hairline appeared to be visibly retreating.

The latest calamity struck last week when Kevin Reynolds, the film's director, abruptly resigned in a huff, apparently after a feud with his star. Costner, who is also the film's producer, is said to have insisted that his role was not heroic enough, but then it is hard to seem glamorous when you are fighting for oxygen through plastic gills and tottering around a watery stage on webbed feet.

In the end *Waterworld* may be less the victim of natural forces, bad luck and personality clashes than something altogether closer to Hollywood's cruel heart: gossip. No sooner had filming begun than the industry scented blood in the water. Costner, despite a reputation as the most bankable actor of the 1980s, has produced a string of disappointments over the past few years, including *Wyatt Earp* and *The War*.

The critics pounced, without having seen a single frame of the film. Some compared *Waterworld* to *Cleopatra*, the 1963 epic failure which almost crippled Twentieth Century Fox, or *Heaven's Gate*, the celebrated United Artists flop. *Waterworld* became "Kevin's Gate" and observers speculated that the hideously expensive film might even scupper Universal Pictures and its parent company, MCA.

The sniping became so vituperative that David Twohy, the *Waterworld* scriptwriter, published an open letter in the trade press, saying: "Just shut the hell up until the movie comes out. When it does, go see it. Then you can decide." Instantly, the carping redoubled.

Rwanda urged to repent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, is today expected to warn the people of Rwanda that there can be no true peace until people repent and say: "I am sorry" (Ruth Gledhill writes).

Dr Carey, preaching at Amahoro national stadium in Rwanda midway during his week-long visit, will urge "repentance for murder committed in the name of tribalism".

In his address, he speaks of "a carefully prepared and executed plan to destroy a people, of trusted civic leaders not just standing by, but in some cases assisting or even leading the killing".

Dr Carey is also expected to urge Rwandans "to start on a process of forgiveness".

Bankruptcy file enforced

New York: Rockefeller Centre, the landmark New York office complex built at the height of the Depression by one of the world's richest families, has been forced by its Japanese owners, Mitsubishi, to file for bankruptcy (James Bone writes). The group of 12 art deco buildings in Manhattan is 80 per cent owned by the Japanese giant, with the balance in Rockefeller family hands. Mitsubishi says rents at the centre do not cover the payments on the mortgage, and filed for bankruptcy protection from its creditors.



Rockefeller Centre: art deco landmark

Bodies retrieved from gold mine

Johannesburg: As rescue workers battled in deteriorating conditions yesterday to recover the bodies of gold-miners killed in one of South Africa's worst mining disasters, the Government promised to speed up efforts to make the industry safer (Inigo Gilmore writes). The bodies of 56 of the 105 miners who are believed to have been trapped in a lift cage sent crashing deep underground by a runaway train had been brought to the surface.

Banda wants to die at home

Harare: Dr Hastings Banda, the former President of Malawi, has shooed away a South African neurologist sent to assess his ability to stand trial for murder, and is insisting on being left alone to die at home (Jan Raath writes). His trial was adjourned for the presiding judge to consider a request by the State's lawyers for Dr Banda to be ordered to hospital for an examination.

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Don't play dirty with Keynes

Daniel Johnson deplores the sullying of a great reputation

A WEEK ago, we celebrated the end of the greatest of all wars. But world wars do not really end overnight. The horrors of the Second World War — migrations, ethnic cleansing, destruction and expropriation on a vast scale — continued in Europe well after the German surrender. The same had happened after the First World War.

Wars begin by simplification and end in confusion. The simplifications repeat themselves, but the confusion never does. From the different confusions in which both world wars ended, a paradox emerges. At Yalta and Potsdam the Allies imposed a harsher peace than Versailles, leaving Germany divided. Yet it was Versailles, not 1945, that bequeathed a sense of injustice which in due course poisoned the Weimar Republic and led to a second war. Why?

After 1918, Germany was not occupied (except the Rhineland and, briefly, the Ruhr) or divided, and lost only a few provinces. Its leaders were not put on trial, imprisoned or executed; only the Kaiser was exiled. It was left to settle its own constitution. It retained a small army which was to become the nucleus of Hitler's Wehrmacht. But there was the myth of the "Carthaginian peace", the reparations. Not much was ever paid: the mortification was in the mind.

> Keynes's agitation did not stem from sexual feelings

In 1945, the Western powers were eager to learn from the mistakes they had made in 1918. Hence the Western zones of Germany suffered comparatively little, at any rate after the famine of 1945-46 — which, though serious, was not, like that of 1918-20, the result of an Allied blockade.

The Russians had no such qualms about extracting reparations. The Reich lost a third of its territory.

Most of the Allied leaders in 1945 were old enough to remember Versailles. Only one figure, however, could claim to have influenced both peace settlements, and he was not a politician. John Maynard Keynes had only a year to live when the war ended; but it is not too much to say of him that he had by then become, as Auden said of Freud, "a whole climate of opinion". His powerful polemic against Versailles, *The Economic Consequences of the Peace* (1919), had persuaded the British (too late) of the folly of reparations. His analysis of the 1919 peace ensured that the consequences of the 1945 peace were very different. In 1944 at Bretton Woods, Keynes set about creating a postwar financial system that would endure. Marshall Aid, which helped to save Western Europe from returning to the instability of the interwar years, was a monument to his insight: democracy needs prosperity.

But Keynes's legacy has latterly come under ever closer scrutiny — in particular, his role at the Versailles negotiations, where he was the Treasury's adviser. According to a recent article in *The Spectator*, Keynes was a pernicious influence both on the Germans, whom he encouraged to pursue policies that led to the hyperinflation of 1923, but also on the British: "Keynes's attack on the Versailles treaty without question contributed to that guilty feeling of having wronged Germany which so inhibited British diplomacy in the 1930s." *The Economic Consequences of the Peace* is said to have been directly inspired by the Hamburg bankers who represented Germany at Versailles. Most damagingly, Keynes's motives are impugned: his critique of the treaty "owed as much to his homosexuality as to his Germanophilia".

The author of this hatchet-job is an Oxford don, Niall Ferguson. His article was billed by the magazine as "an extract from his new book", *Paper and Iron: Hamburg business and German politics in the era of inflation, 1897-1927* (Cambridge University Press, £45). Anyone who reads this scholarly volume will see that the *Spectator* article is not an extract at all, nor even an adumbration of this well-argued book.

At the heart of Ferguson's quarrel with Keynes (which is also a quarrel with his biographer, Robert Skidelsky) is *Dr Melchior: a Defeated Enemy*, the remarkable sketch of the peace talks which Keynes read to the Bloomsbury Memoir Club in 1920. Carl Melchior, a Jewish banker, was a member of the German delegation at Versailles, and later became Keynes's best German friend.

In his book, Ferguson offers a balanced view of their relationship: "It may be that [Keynes's] subsequent declaration that he 'got to love' Melchior during the long negotiations at Trier obliquely alluded to a sexual attraction, but it seems more probable that Keynes was simply captivated by the sound of his own pessimism being articulated by another." But in the *Spectator* piece, Ferguson uses Keynes's memoir "to infer ... some kind of sexual attraction. After all, this was a time in Keynes's life of considerable homosexual activity." Ferguson admits that he has no evidence of an affair. "Yet there is no question that the attraction Keynes felt for him strongly influenced his judgment." Skidelsky himself suggests that their correspondence, not all of which survives, amounted to an exchange of confidential intelligence. The agitation Keynes felt when meeting Melchior stemmed not from sexual undercurrents, but from a mutual awareness that any discovery of their clandestine talks would have caused uproar.

So much for homosexuality. Was it so discreditable that Keynes was "Germanophile" in 1919? Surely, it required courage to warn the British that humiliating the Germans was not the way to safeguard the Weimar Republic. *Paper and Iron* is a major contribution to German history. A pity, then, that Niall Ferguson should have vulgarised his own insights, perhaps out of a mischievous desire to debunk Skidelsky — the man to whom we owe most of what we know about Keynes.

The Conservatives, says **Julian Critchley**, would be barely recognisable after a heavy general election defeat

After the landslide: the tattered Tories

What sort of Tory party would survive a defeat on the scale of 1906? Political commentators were speculating in the wake of last week's local elections when the Conservatives lost more than 2,000 seats in England (to say nothing of Scotland and Wales) that the party would end up in opposition with some 144 seats in Parliament. Not as bad as the Canadian experience, in which Ted Heath and probably David Mellor would be the only survivors, but bad enough. What sort of party would the Tories become?

Many of us older Members will retire at the election, Tories like John Biffen and Cranley Onslow. Members with a highly developed sense of party, and nurtured, as I was, on the sentimental/nostalgic/yet realistic view of Europe as expressed by Harold Macmillan and Edward Heath. Their places are likely to be taken by ambitious young right-wingers, happily married and with two children, whose formative political years might well have been spent among the Tartan Ale type of Young Conservative, the sort of whom even Norman Tebbit disapproved.

John Major sits upon the safest Tory seat in England, but I doubt if he would survive long as Leader of the Opposition. Michael Heseltine would be unlikely to stand for re-election, preferring to continue his task of reforestation on the borders of Oxfordshire and Northampton. Ken Clarke, were he to scrape home at Nottingham, would be held by a fresh generation of garagistes and estate agents to be the architect of our defeat, and would be denied the leadership. That leaves Michael Portillo ("El Sid") to impose his vision of an island Britain on what was once a great internationalist party.

Since the 1992 general election, when to everyone's secret surprise John Major, with a little help from John Smith, actually won, the Prime Minister, once "at the heart of Europe" has been forced by the likes of Teresa Gorman, the Queen of Essex, and by wider, less stridently expressed opinion within the party, to move steadily in the direction of the Euro-sceptics, the new nationalists for whom VE-Day stood only for victory. Hugh Dykes, Ian Taylor and Peter Luff would strive to keep alight the sacred flame, but the general acceptance that "Europe" was a principal British interest will have been almost worn away. The end of the Cold War and anxieties about Spanish imperialism over fish have made a united Europe appear to be of only minor importance.

The question remains: will a Europhobe Conservative Party return to embrace what is left of "Thatcherism" or will it remain largely a party of "One Nation", a philosophy that owes its origins to Disraeli and its success to the 1950 intake of Tory MPs? Will Rab Butler be spinning in his grave?

Those Tory MPs who have gone as far as College Green to wonder aloud whether a period of opposition would be of long-term advantage to the Tory party are barking mad. Only the years in opposition between Churchill's defeat in 1945 and his return to power in 1951, were particularly fruitful. Rab Butler, Peter Thorneycroft, David Eccles, Edward Heath and Reggie Maudling persuaded the party to stand by the wartime agreements reached with Labour in the coalition Government, and by so doing erased the memories of unemployment, appeasement and prewar poverty. The result was the election of the 1950 intake, universally regarded as the best since the war. (A rival might be the seventy-niners, the fifty-niners being generally regarded as the worst.)

No Tory can look back to the period of opposition under Balfour and Bonar Law with anything but embarrassment. We were split in two by protection versus free trade, and only permitted a share of power in 1916 by the Kaiser. 1964 to 1970 was a dull period during which "Selsdon Man" made a brief appearance on stage, and Lord Home was bundled out of office. Party leaders rarely survive defeat.

1974 to 1979 saw the overthrow of Ted Heath by the executive of the 1922 Committee led by Edward du Cann, helped by a disillusioned right wing who had stumbled across the young Margaret Thatcher after Sir Keith Joseph made a remarkably foolish speech in Brum where he attacked the working class for bearing so many stupid children. Thus Margaret came to power, and a decade or more of disharmony (and some achievement) accompanied her capricious and arrogant rule. It took a palace revolution to get rid of her.

Believing itself to be the natural party of government, in opposition the Tory party is usually to be seen at its worst. It becomes fractious, denies much of what is good of its past, and tends to turn to false prophets. The party under Michael Portillo could become unrecognisable to those of us who have served it since the end of the war. It would become étatiste, hostile to further European integration, tempted even to quit the Union, reliant upon an increasingly disinterested United States, and obsessed by the small change of politics like the condition of unmarried mothers, repatriation and welfare benefit. Vouchers would once again come to the fore, and the party's attitudes and policies would pass from the saloon to the public bar. We have everything to gain in 1996, and, by the same token, everything to lose.

Julian Critchley is the Conservative MP for Aldershot.

Who can tame the Thames?

London's tough old river will still be flowing when all those who have tried to exploit or prettify it are forgotten

Simon Jenkins

Old Father Gummer declared this week that he intended to "do something" about the Thames in London. The time had come, he said, "to break new ground ... to realise the river's potential and rich resources." Old Father Thames winked. For centuries he has floated politicians up on the spring tide to Westminster, along with the offal of the Fleet, granted them a couple of burps and then spat them downstream to Dartford and the sea. What was new this time?

"How we neglect the Thames" is the hardiest perennial of London journalism. When many years ago I was sent to write an article on this theme, I took it all too seriously. I boarded ship from the dock at Twickenham, from where you could once buy steamer tickets to Calais and Ostend. My mentor was the great waterman, Walter Caisley, boss of Thames Launches and doyen at the time of the Do-something-about-the-Thames lobby. In his flat cap and clipped Thamesside accent, Caisley was a perfect Ratty to my Mole. His whole life had been spent messing about in riverboats. I came across him reading an article about the "scandal" that nobody had ever thought of floating a restaurant on the Thames. He was reading it over lunch in his floating restaurant on the Thames. It was deserted and about to close. He was furious.

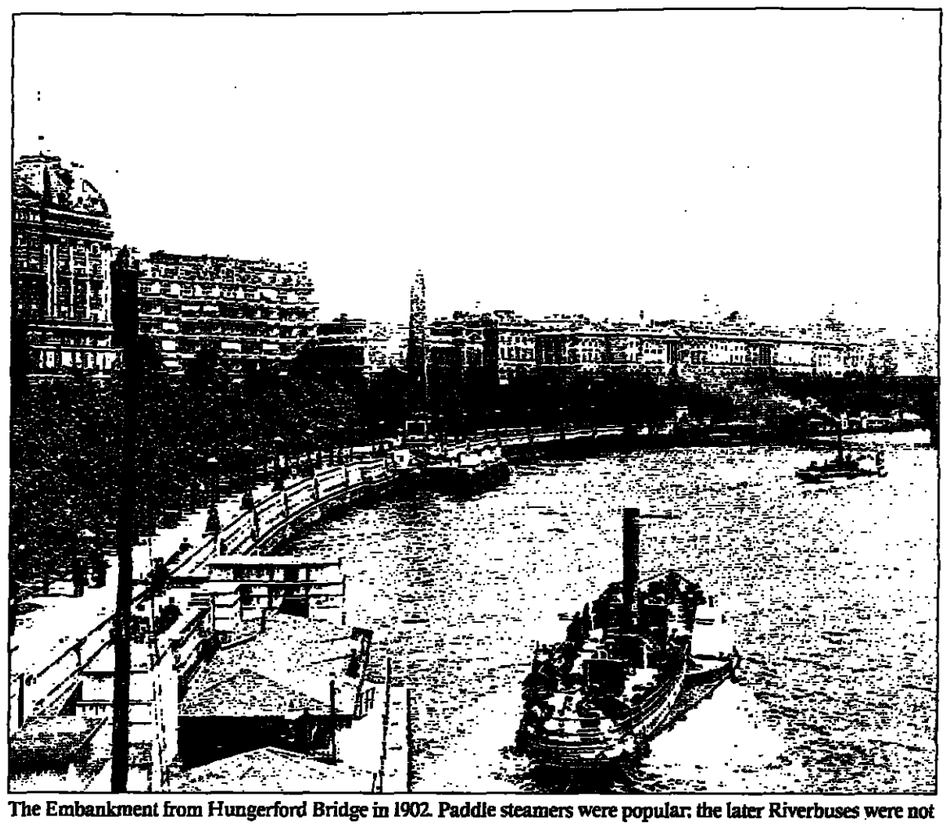
I sailed the Thames with Caisley as others sail the tropics with Patrick O'Brien. He knew every creek and sandbank, every inlet and current. He showed me the water steps up to Parliament, built so MPs could avoid the mob. He took me exploring Shad Thames long before the gentrifiers found it. We mourned the loss of riparian Rotherhithe and Limehouse. But Caisley's saddest exhibit was his collection of articles on Doing Something about the Thames. "I have been trying for 30 years," he said. He owned 15 pleasure launches from his Eel Pie Island boatyard, down from 30 in the 1960s. He had promoted eight restaurant boats, two of them purpose-built. All had failed.

Caisley tried to put a dance hall and disco on the river by Cleopatra's Needle. In 1963 he shipped a Denny Hovercraft from Dumbarton and ran it as a water bus. Both failed. At the time of our tour, the Greater London Council was spending £7 million of ratepayers' money on hydrofoil buses. They went as bust as had the old Festival of Britain water buses in 1951. Goodness knows where they are now. Yet Caisley loved the Thames so much he offered to hand all his boats over to any public authority that would only keep them running.

Since then Thames initiatives have come and gone with the tide. The London Docklands rebuilding revived the Riverbus. Developers were asked, indeed compelled, to sponsor new commuter launches. The Riverbuses lost money and collapsed in 1993. Just one still runs to Canary Wharf. The 18th-century watermen were right when they fought the building of every road crossing from London Bridge to Richmond. Each bridge, road and embankment was death to their business. If you built a bridge today from San Marco to the Salute and a road along the Grand Canal, you would say goodbye to the gondoliers and the vaporetti. As for the longed-for boom in leisure cruising through London, I recall Caisley saying, with the rain dripping from his cap, "you must be joking".

Doing something with the Thames depends mostly on doing something on the Thames, on its role as a highway. As long as the latter is hopeless, the former seems wishful thinking. Transport on the Thames is like Shakespeare in the park or the Fort William sleeper. We want river boats to exist not because large numbers clamour for them, but because we are comforted to know they are there — and one day we might change our mind and need them. The Thames is London's one natural feature. The capital has none of New York's islands, Rome's hills or Cape Town's mountain, just this curious serpentine ditch. Surely someone can put it to good account.

The latest proposals from the successor to the Greater London Council, the Government Office for London, rehearse familiar arguments against radical change. The river cannot be made non-tidal and thus "recreational" by raising the barrage. This would impede river traffic, deter wildfowl, inundate cellars and increase silting and pollution. The Thames is invisible from most embankments and bridges because of flood-resistant parapets. Nor can it be turned into a Seine-like gallery of architecture since almost every prospect is marred by a structure of startling ugliness. (The chief contribution to beautifying the Thames would be demolition not construction.)



The Embankment from Hungerford Bridge in 1902. Paddle steamers were popular; the later Riverbuses were not

The best of Mr Gummer's proposals is his desire for "markers" on the shore, focal clusters of piers, gardens, monuments and squares intended to bring the city down to the shore. Apart from modest efforts at Coin Street and Butler's Wharf, the only real fusing of architecture and water in London is Quinlan Terry's Richmond town centre. Here the river is a true performing artist, with buildings and terraces its' audience. If Mr Gummer can find the time and money to punctuate other parts of the bank with similar theatricals, good luck to him. The ghastly stretch from Westminster to Chelsea commands immediate attention. From the blighted Tower Bridge, Jubilee Gardens and Battersea Power Station sites to the forlorn mistakes of the Tower Hotel and the King's Reach offices, the Thames seems cursed to flow through a landscape of bad decisions taken, and good ones postponed.

Yet a Thames renaissance is, as Caisley said, mostly a quaint fantasy of those who never go near the river, despite half a century of costly enticement. It is William Morris's "dream of London, small and white and clean. (The clear Thames bordered by its gardens green." Perhaps upstream the traces of riverine romance can be revived along the Golden Reach from Kew to Twickenham, where Augustan and Palladian relics are glimpsed through what is still a picturesque landscape. But this is not the London Thames.

The river with which Mr Gummer seeks to do battle is Eliot's "strong brown god", surging back and forth each day outside Parliament and defying all attempts to tame it. The Thames in full spate on a windy day is one of the few patches of wildness left in the capital. To sit on the top deck of an Embankment bus and watch a tugboat captain wrestling against the tide is a splendid sight. This is the grand old man reminding us of his prime, of a water thick with royal barges, tugboats, steamers and clippers, alive by day with masts and spars and by night with the groaning and clanking of lighters. Here Dickens's watermen rowed out to smuggle convicts and rob corpses.

If Mr Gummer could fill his river with such exotic flotsam we might make progress. For the moment he has to contend with an empty stage. Like any stage, there is no shortage of ideas to fill it, only a shortage of takers. Any city river is a strip of water bounded by good intentions. A future for the Thames depends on Londoners wanting to use it and the English climate enticing them to do so. Both assumptions are unreliable.

Raise the Thames barrage and make the river a pond, and yachtsmen, fishermen and swimmers may rush to its banks. But as long as the stream is tidal, it will remain a wild torrent pouring through London's heart, neglected by all except aficionados. Old Father Gummer can have his markers, and the sooner the better. But I fear that the great brown god will sooner or later catch him by the sleeve and carry him out to sea with a grin.

Archer's back

LORD ARCHER'S political antennae are twitching again. The novelist is to lay down his pen on behalf of the few remaining Tories in Scotland. He is planning to campaign in the Perth and Kinross by-election later this month.

The move has been welcomed by Perth and Kinross Conservatives who are lying in third place behind the Scottish National Party and Labour, according to the latest poll. "He is an excellent campaigner and if anyone offers to help we'll be delighted," says a spokesman. "We're planning the details of his visit."

But there is consternation at Conservative Central Office in London, where some regard Archer as a liability since he was linked to share dealings in Anglia Television last year.

"Jeffrey has been lying low for a long time but is making a reappearance," says one source. "He has recently made a couple of speeches urging the party to stick together. And now he is going to Perth. Some would say he is jostling for position in anticipation of a summer reshuffle."

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Lord Archer, however, denies that he is "busting a gut" to return to politics. "I am still getting 30 to 40 invitations a week but I certainly can't do them all."

Together

THURSDAY'S announcement that the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev Derek Worlock, was to retire drew an unusual tribute from the offices of his Anglican counterpart, the Right Rev David Sheppard.

The Bishop's chaplain, the Rev Paul Dawson, whistled up a quick limerick in appreciation:

So Scousers shall lose their Archb'
No more fish, no more chips, for their tea
No feeling morose
He's shown us how close
The Kingdom of Heaven might be.

Fish and chips? "Well you see that's what we call the Archbishop and the Bishop," explains Dawson. "They are always together; and they are always in the paper."

Grounded

LORD Nolan may have started something by trying to stop MPs from exploiting their positions and enjoying undue privilege. The foreign jaunts of select committee members appear to be under threat because of satellite technology.

The Governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten, will soon set a new precedent by appearing in front of the foreign affairs committee by satellite — which means no freebie for its members to Hong Kong.

Sharp tongue

THE 100th anniversary of the first theatrical knighthood, awarded to Henry Irving in 1895, will be celebrated in London tomorrow. His grandaughter Lady Brunner, 91, will be in the audience for a show at the Garrick Club which brings to life Irving's acquaintances such as his manager Bram Stoker, Bernard Shaw and his lover, the actress Ellen Terry.

Brunner never knew her grandfather but she once saw Ellen Terry perform and is convinced Sir Henry was right to abandon his wife for the actress. "My grandmother was very sharp-tempered — he was absolutely right," she says.

The final straw came when Irving and his wife were being driven home from a first night at the Lyceum, explains Brunner: "He asked her what she thought of his performance. She replied: 'You made a greater fool of yourself than ever.' At that he got out at Hyde Park Corner and walked off into the night forever."



"Personally I'd like to see more proof that a Scottish Conservative really exists"

● *The Leo Dowling family were sitting at home in Ormond Beach, Florida watching a video when a huge chunk of frozen matter from an aircraft passing overhead crashed through their roof. The incident interrupted their viewing of the film* Airplane.

Ex cathedra

THE TOWERING throne occupied by the Duke of Kent in his capacity as the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England will be overrun with children tonight.

It will be transformed into part of Noah's Ark when Benjamin Britten's opera *Noye's Fludde* is performed for the Covent Garden Festival. Cohorts of local schoolchildren have been co-opted and have been hard at work going into the ark two by two. "We just have to ensure the giraffe doesn't team up with the hippo," says a childminder.



Hurley and Lumley: thrills at Harrow

Fabulous

TEENAGERS at Harrow School are itching with excitement after news of a planned visit from Britain's two icons of theatrical glamour, Elizabeth Hurley and Joanna Lumley. They will be the guests of honour at a charity concert to be held on the school playing grounds. The do on June 17 will be more staid than the groovey world of Lumley's character Patsy in *Absolutely Fabulous*, and some way from the catwalk carry-ons of Hurley and her infamous dresses. The Band of the Royal Marines and the BBC Concert Orchestra are playing, accompanied by fireworks.

Lumley, whose son James attended the school, has visited before. "She used to come to take part in the Old Harrovian Shakespeare productions, which made us all tremendously excited," says an old boy.

P·H·S

MAY 13 1995

TEEMING SPIRES

The Good University Guide makes the choice a little easier

As A levels loom for pupils at the top of their schools, those in the year below have a happier but no less important task at this time of year. Now is the season for contemplating applications to university. The choice is so enormous as to be daunting as well as exciting. With 97 institutions offering tens of thousands of courses to a student population of one million, how are potential undergraduates to make up their minds?

Until recently, the choice tended to be more than a little arbitrary. Word of mouth, parents' own experience, and limited advice from schools often formed a tenuous basis for selection. At the same time, the expansion of higher education made the process ever more bewildering. Since 1992, though, *The Times* has produced its own Good University Guide, ranking the institutions and commenting on their strengths and weaknesses. Our intention is to navigate prospective applicants through the possibilities and pitfalls of higher education.

For five days next week, we shall be publishing extracts from the guide (which is also available from Times Books), with accompanying articles on such subjects as the changing face of higher education, the hottest tips for a successful application, how to choose the right Oxbridge college, and which universities are the most popular. With applications expected to be even higher than last year for the same number of places, good information could make the difference between success and failure.

The universities themselves have never been very happy with the notion of ranking. When we published our first league table, there were cries of "Unfair". The same was true in America, though, for a ranking which is now commonly accepted. Each year, we try to refine the criteria used for judging and to make the table ever more accurate. It is a measure of the league's growing acceptability within the higher education establishment that for the first time this year every university co-operated in checking the statistics that we produced.

Enthusiasm for the guide in the outside world, however, is striking. Prospective students find it hard to obtain unbiased advice — whether about courses, teaching and academic reputation, or about accommodation, food, ambience and nightlife. They need to know not only which universities are the best, but which are realistic targets at which to aim.

Choosing a university is also about choosing a way of life for three years. It makes a big difference whether a student ends up on a campus miles outside town or in a London college in the middle of a bustling but impersonal city. Some will consider nightlife or a thriving arts scene important; others might be more interested in pursuing sport or enjoying the countryside. Academically, students have to consider whether they want to do modular courses, joint subjects or single subjects. Do they prefer continuous assessment or end-of-year exams? Do they want to continue their best subject at school or to embark on something quite different?

Only one person can make these decisions. But choice is all the better for being informed. Rankings are by their nature blunt instruments, and there is no substitute for visiting a shortlist of universities and talking to students who are currently pursuing an applicant's preferred course. The difficulty lies, however, in drawing up the shortlist in the first place. "Where do I start?" is the most common cry of the confused university applicant. Next week's guide should help them to cut a path through the undergrowth.

A CAPITAL QUESTION

Is it to be Jerusalem versus the peace process?

As negotiations between Yitzhak Rabin's Government and Yassir Arafat's Palestinian National Authority continue to lurch in every direction but forward, the Israeli administration has ordered the seizure for Jewish housing of 131 acres of Palestinian land in east Jerusalem. The Israeli public responded with ebullient approval: the Palestinian reaction was marked by resentful indignation. Clearly, by this measure, the seizure does not advance the cause of the now-tattered Declaration of Principles. But Jerusalem was never going to be easy: in fact, it was always going to be this difficult.

That is the reason why the 1993 accord allowed the start of the negotiations on the "permanent status" of Jerusalem to be deferred until mid-1996. There may have been a touch of the ostrich in the allocation of last place in the queue to the issue that is always foremost in Israeli and Palestinian minds. Yet Israel has always argued that agreements should come in stages: it is only from the successful resolution of lesser disputes that the courage to approach the most emotive conflicts will come.

The latest seizure of Palestinian land provokes important questions: *can* the Israeli Government take such action? And *should* it have taken such action? These very questions were stirred earlier this year by the dust of Israeli bulldozers at the Palestinian village of al-Khader, in the occupied West Bank. Mr Arafat described the construction of those new settlements as in "flagrant violation" of the Declaration of Principles, words which he and his political associates were to repeat after the recent seizures in east Jerusalem.

In purely textual terms, the accord does not disallow the kind of action which Israel has just taken. But peace between Israel and the Palestinians is not a matter of text alone: more important even than the letter of the accord is the spirit in which it is interpreted. The seizure of Palestinian land in east Jerusalem runs strictly counter to the essence of the Declaration of Principles — just as the continued building of settlements in the West Bank does.

Yet in extending Jewish control over a wider swath of east Jerusalem, Mr Rabin is seeking to win back some of the political high ground he has lost to the opposition Likud. The seizure serves his domestic interests, so much so that he has calculated that his Government can cope with controlled international criticism. And although Mr Arafat has been critical, he has been careful not to be strident. He understands as well as anyone that a Likud government would give him no quarter: its putative Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, has made clear his contempt for the Declaration of Principles. Mr Arafat cannot afford a Likud victory in next year's elections; he derives strength from a Rabin ascendant, even if the Israeli Prime Minister strengthens himself momentarily by weakening Mr Arafat.

But both peoples — Israeli and Palestinian — must realise that the alternatives to the present interlocutors will only make the conflict more insoluble. Likud would reject Mr Arafat: Hamas is intent on undoing history. The painful paradox is that Mr Rabin's formula for Jerusalem will only strengthen the hand of Hamas. Each slight to Mr Arafat, each act which confirms that the Israeli Government is still unwilling to regard its erstwhile Palestinian foes as their present political equals, nourishes hatred of Israel in Gaza and the West Bank. There must be better ways of seeking peace than by seizing land.

BRIEF WAFFLE

The indefeasible right to talk the hind legs off a donkey

Ladies and gentlemen of what may legitimately be described as our national daily jury, without either hyperbole on the one hand or rebuttal on the other hand or undue metaphor on the third hand, the Lord Chief Justice will, of course, be your guide in all matters of law. That is both his right and his constitutional duty.

Accordingly, now that he has in layman's language ordered lawyers to cut the waffle and meet strict trial deadlines, of course they will obey him meticulously — as to the law. However, on the facts of his Lordship's instruction, you the jury are the sole judges. Ever since Magna Carta, the lawyers of England and Wales, with a somewhat similar arrangement for their learned brothers in northern Britain, have had an emphyteutic right not to be impeded in their duty to put the case for their clients with the highest possible degree of care and verbosity. If they failed in their logorrhea, their profession would be escheated.

You should not trouble your heads with this legal jargon. Let me put it simply for you, in words of one syllable intelligible by the man in the Clapham omnibus, or, as I suppose we have to say these days in what passes for virile legal wit, the one-legged single-parent ethnic lesbian on the Northern Line. Where any person suffers damage as the result partly of his own fault and partly of the fault of any other person or persons, particularly the Lord High Chancellor or the Lord Chief Justice, a claim in respect of that damage shall not be defeated by reason of the fault of the barrister suffering that damage. To cut a long story short, we at the Criminal Bar fear that we may be forced to pay for wasted costs and delay. This would be a tort, malfeasance, misfeasance and a constitutional outrage.

Moreover, precedents and case law confirm the prescriptive right of British lawyers to talk for as long they want, *nemine contradicente* as we lawyers say, except another learned friend with a right of audience. This is as fundamental a liberty as our right to place wigs of horse-hair or goat's hair on our heads. Take away either of these rights, and the whole system of English jurisprudence will be undermined. The State's foundations will quiver. One of the best-loved novels by the well-known writer Charles Dickens is a paean in praise of the procedures of the Court of Chancery in the case of *Jarndyce and Jarndyce*, and the selfless eloquence of the lawyers representing all parties extending over several generations. That case may have seemed interminable. Those who do not understand the law might have called it "waffle". But it was what lawyers describe as not only justiciable but also justifiable.

Readers of the jury, you may ask what is in this for barristers. Well, the answer is about £1,000 for three questions. You may ask in your understandable confusion at the workings of the law if that is not rather steep. And the plain answer, without any beating about the bush or peradventure, is Yes. And now, what is your third question?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Chancellor and Governor at odds

From Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark

Sir, Having served for 14 years on the Treasury and Civil Service Committee of the House of Commons I had a chance to receive evidence from both the Treasury and Bank of England economists over many years.

I am therefore amazed that the Labour Party and so-called monetary experts say that when the Bank speaks all others should be silent.

Both the Bank and the Treasury employ similar soothsayers who at the age of 25-30 are unfailing experts on what the Chancellor should do; from my experience of vast mountains of predictions, an experienced politician has as much chance of being right as the Bank and above all politicians, if they are wrong lose their jobs. Economists just sigh and make more predictions and go cheerfully on being wrong more often than not.

Yours,
ANTHONY BEAUMONT-DARK
(Conservative MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, 1979-92),
124 Lady Byron Lane,
Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands.

From Mr W. N. P. Cash, MP for Stafford (Conservative)

Sir, The Chancellor of the Exchequer said yesterday that he has "endeavoured to be his own man" (report, May 12) in his dealings with the Governor of the Bank of England.

The problem surely is that, under the provisions of the Maastricht treaty relating to stages two and three of economic and monetary union, there is a legal requirement for governors of banks not to "seek or take instructions" from the member states.

Where does this put section 4 of the Bank of England Act of 1946, which prescribes that the Treasury may give directions to the Bank of England? This matter should be analysed as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM CASH,
House of Commons.
May 12.

From Mr Richard Lee

Sir, It must be a cause for concern when the Governor of the Bank of England is publicly doing his best to encourage higher interest rates against the wishes of the Chancellor.

The Chancellor holds office by the democratic process. If the unelected Governor of the Bank of England finds decisions which go against his wishes cause him to lose sleep, maybe it is time for him to consider spending more time with his family.

Industry needs, above all else, a stable economic environment in which to plan long-term investment. Tantrums and stamping of feet are not the way to do it.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD LEE,
Kent House, Lake Road,
Ambleside, Cumbria.
May 12.

Menace of mink

From Mrs Rosalie Habgood

Sir, I am glad Mr Morriss (letter, May 11) has drawn attention to the damage inflicted by mink on other wild life. We have had ample opportunity to observe the devastation here not only to the water fowl and water vole on the Ouse but also the wild and golden pheasant in the grounds alongside the river.

Over the last few years I have managed to trap or shoot some eighteen mink — but still they come. I can confirm they are wily and ruthless killers. I find also that they are becoming more wary and therefore more difficult to catch.

They do not belong within our ecology and I hope everything will be done to eliminate them so that once again our indigenous species can thrive.

Yours faithfully,
ROSALIE HABGOOD,
Bishopthorpe Palace,
Bishopthorpe, York.
May 11.

From Mrs Annabel Geddes

Sir, Now that feral mink have become an environmental threat, do you think I could retrieve my poor old mink coat from its spider-infested cupboard, and wear it with pride — or is that asking too much?

Yours faithfully,
ANNABEL GEDDES,
Gaston Manor, High Street,
Tisbury, Wiltshire.
May 11.

Dressing the part

From Mr Peregrine Fellowes

Sir, In answer to Mr Edwards's question [letter, May 8; also letter, May 11], the English have happily been spared the outmoded cliché of a "national dress"; but, if there were one, it could only be a hair shirt.

Yours faithfully,
PEREGRINE FELLOWES,
The Court,
Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

Weekend Money letters, page 30

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Epilogue to VE-Day remembrance

From Mrs Esmé Barron

Sir, As one whose young husband was one of those who paid the tremendous price for our 50 years of peace, I would like to thank all — organisers and participants — who made the anniversary of VE-Day such a moving and dignified occasion.

The service of thanksgiving in St Paul's Cathedral on Sunday I am sure must have touched all, and the happiness of the celebrations on Monday was a fitting reminder to all who remember the actual ending of the war.

There was a great deal of personal sadness for far too many, but a ray of gladness in the thought that perhaps all those wonderful young men paved the way of peace for their own children and their grandchildren.

Yours etc,
ESMÉ BARRON,
45 Christchurch Road,
Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.
May 9.

From Mrs Gaia Servadio Myddelton

Sir, In October 1938, two weeks after my birth, my father had to make a statement to authorities, under the new Italian racial laws, that he belonged to "*la razza ebrea*". In September 1943 the Germans invaded Italy and my family changed our names, and fled.

It was no longer humiliation and poverty, it was manhunt. During those months in hiding the family would secretly gather with trusted friends to listen to the forbidden broadcasts from the BBC.

The first months brought terrible news but then came the turning point of Stalingrad, a "sound" I still remember. The BBC kept us going and I remember every detail, the Beethoven notes, the messages in code for the partisans, the voices.

The fortitude of the British people, the BBC broadcasts, the British Armed Forces, kept us not only alive but hoping. The British people fought against evil. For this, I shall be forever grateful to this country.

Yours sincerely,
GAIA SERVADIO MYDDELTON,
31 Bloomfield Terrace, SW1.
May 4.

From the Reverend Richard Barrett

Sir, While one understands the revulsion felt at mention of Hitler on VE-Day, Mgr Kieran Conroy's statement that "the main thrust in praying for the dead is in praying for those whose memories are revered" (report, May 12) effectively excludes a sizeable proportion of the population from the Church's intercessory ministrations.

Surely we pray for anyone whose soul needs saving? In this respect the Church holds to what Chesterton called the democracy of the dead. Furthermore we are especially enjoined by the Founder to "pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew v, 43-44). Would this not include right and left-wing dictators?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BARRETT,
The Priests' House,
2 Brereton Road, Bedford.
May 12.

Future of Radio 1

From Mr Justin Harper

Sir, Peter Barnard (Arts, May 4) writes that Radio 1 should be sold in order to "free resources for the BBC to do even better what the private sector shows no interest in". Surely the recent decline in Radio 1's listening figures is precisely as a result of having chosen a path that no commercial station would follow.

Until recently, the only thing on radio that I, as a 23-year-old, would listen to was the John Peel programme. It was the only programme that came close to reflecting my own diversities and, admittedly, eccentricities of taste in music. However, I am now aware of at least four or five programmes on radio that I would listen to. All of them are on Radio 1.

Mr Barnard also writes that young people "are the very group most inclined to listen to tapes, CDs and vinyl more than they listen to radio". In my own case I have to admit that this is true. Why? Because I'm simply not used to there being anything on radio that I would be inclined to listen to. Maybe in time I will listen more. All that Radio 1 needs is patience.

Yours,
JUSTIN HARPER,
Ladye Place, High Street,
Hurley, Berkshire.
May 4.

Road protesters

From Mr J. G. Hillaby

Sir, Mr Allan Lupton suggests (letter, May 3) that next time courts find in protesters' favour, the Department of Transport should carry on building the road regardless. He is nearer the mark than he thinks.

After a painstaking public inquiry into a proposed 14km bypass around Hereford, the inspector rejected the entire route because of its effect "upon the environment and landscape through which the route would run".

He found the objections "well-founded and substantial", and that the only effective way of overcoming them would be to take the bypass the other side of the city. He thanked the numerous objectors, including CPRE, for presenting their case with good humour and according to the rules.

The department now proposes the self-same route, again, unchanged — except for two deviations which make it even worse, and will bring it back to a second public inquiry, "if necessary".

Will anyone be surprised if, next time, protesters are massed to protect the ancient woodland and medieval landscape under threat?

Yours faithfully,
JOE HILLABY
(Herefordshire Branch Chairman),
Council for the Protection of Rural England,
Riding Gate, The Great Doward,
Herefordshire.

From Ms Magda Stirling

Sir, The declaration of peace in 1945 heralded the greatest party of all times across London and the whole country. In the area of Hyde Park where I was on Monday after the speeches and the extraordinarily moving two minutes' silence, we waited, hundreds of thousands of us, for the party — fifty years on — to continue.

We watched a bad television programme — crooner after crooner singing dirge after dirge. We had no part to play. The fireworks were too late to retrieve the sparkle.

Funny, in 1945 it was the people's victory, the people's festivities. Our children will think we have forgotten how to have a party.

Yours faithfully,
MAGDA STIRLING,
99 Kenyon Street, SW6.
May 6.

From Mr Dominic Beddow

Sir, While enjoying the festivities in Hyde Park and outside Buckingham Palace this weekend, it struck me that one of the best effects of all the VE celebrations is that the Union Jack has been reclaimed from the National Front and flown by people of all political persuasions as a sign of simple patriotism.

Yours sincerely,
DOMINIC BEDDOW,
55 Castletown Road, W14.
May 9.

From Mr P. J. de A. Moore

Sir, I was invited to open the VE-Day 50th anniversary celebrations in my village yesterday. My brief address included the following: "We are still proud to be British, but on this 50th anniversary of peace let us declare war on yobbery and bad manners in whatever age group and whatever level of our society."

I returned home in the evening to hear that Carling had been reinstated as captain of the English rugby team.

Yours sincerely,
PETER MOORE,
Rose Cottage,
Snelston, Ashbourne,
Derbyshire.
May 9.

From Mrs Linda Gilroy

Sir, Dame Vera Lynn says that 20-25 year-olds are "poorly informed" about the war, and that "most of them would not be enjoying the lifestyles they have today if it were not for those who got themselves killed in the war" (report, May 8).

Surely those who need reminding of what war is about are those who have witnessed without protest the creation of an economy in which one in four of these under-25s has never had a proper job.

The "lifestyle" they are "enjoying" can be a fertile breeding ground for the kind of racism and Fascism which caused so many to become casualties of the war.

Yours etc,
LINDA GILROY,
98 Osborne Court,
Osborne Place,
Plymouth, Devon.
May 9.

'Bare earth'

From Mr Alan Smith

Sir, In his article, "The real value of science on the BBC" (Media and Marketing, May 3), James Lovelock suggests that "When organisations like the BBC are taken over by their accountants they become like gardens managed by weeding only. At first it all looks neat and tidy but soon there is nothing but bare earth". On the same page the article, "Readers take a step to the left" analyses an opinion poll indicating that 45 per cent of readers of *The Times* support Labour.

Many spheres of life today are affected by the Government's obsessive policy of privatisation. Like accountants, its priorities are least cost, maximum profits, etc, with no thought for the consequences. Today, there is little room and only small reward for those of us who provide a useful or innovative service.

Large sectors of the nation are now beginning to see the "bare earth" created by the Government's policies and readers of papers such as *The Times*, traditionally Tory supporters, are now showing their distaste for the type of society which has been created.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN SMITH,
108 The Meadows, Cherry Burton,
Beverley, North Humberside.
May 3.

'Go fetch to me a pint o' wine'

From Mr Andrew MacGregor

Sir, Your advice that wine is good for us is welcome (leading article, May 5). The view that beer and spirits are not so, as reported in the same edition by scientists at the Institute for Preventive Medicine in Copenhagen, is open to debate.

Distinction should be made between natural live or "real ales" and pasteurised beers. Presumably, the Danish scholars base their conclusions on the latter. Unpasteurised beer contains more life-extending goodness than wine, without the unnatural additives which lead to other ailments.

Whisky has no right to be used in comparison to what our competitors claim is food. The benefit of wine is usually conditioned: "if taken with a meal". It seems unlikely that such equal consideration was offered to whisky, which by the addition of pure water becomes "wine" of distinction; whisky is food for the brain not body.

I have to suggest that our Danish friends undertake the not too unpleasant task of repeating their study, using pasteurised wine and unpasteurised beer, diluting whisky with meals or reserving it for spiritual needs.

A reduction in excise for such home produce would allow us to be wealthier and healthier, but I would accept burgundy on the NHS if things went wrong.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW MacGREGOR,
Craig Mill,
Strathaven, Lanarkshire.
May 7.

From Mr John F. Casson

Sir, I read your leading article on the findings of the six Danish scholars on the benefits of moderate consumption of wine while invigilating the 43rd year of the Master of Wine examination. Since the first examination in 1953 only 204 individuals have succeeded in this examination, of whom 188 are alive and well today as members of our institute; indeed three of the original six passes in 1953 are still with us and one of them was assisting with the invigilation.

Yours skollarly,
JOHN F. CASSON
(Executive Director),
The Institute of Masters of Wine,
Five Kings House,
1 Queen Street Place, EC4.

From Mr Tony Lawton

Sir, One is of course grateful to the Danish BMJ sextet, as your leader describes them, for confirming what most of us have always known, namely that wine is good for you unless taken in excess.

St Paul, in his first letter to Timothy (v, 23), advises him: "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities." It was sound advice then and still is.

Yours faithfully,
TONY LAWTON,
The Old Rectory, Skelton, York.

From Mrs Lindsay P. Murray

Sir, Before we all reach for the bottle in an attempt to forestall fatal circulatory disease should we not also take into account the possible effects of red wine on our brains and livers, and a few other vital organs?

Yours faithfully,
LINDSAY P. MURRAY,
The Haining,
Strathkinness High Road,
St Andrews, Fife.
May 5.

From Mr David Crush

Sir, I can't help thinking that the researchers ("three to five glasses of wine a day ... lower risk of dying from heart disease") are looking at the wrong substance. It must surely be the aspirins taken the morning after that provide the benefit.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CRUSH,
45 Rue de Canach,
Schuttrange, Luxembourg.

Comings and goings

From Ms Zandria Pauncefort

Sir, Mr Boyle (letter, May 11) might be well advised to find reassurance by celebrating uncertainty. The phrase he cites "I see what you are driving at" implies the possibility that we might know where we are going. Small wonder that the expression is in decline. "I see where you are coming from" is much safer ground.

Of course, most reassuring of all would be to know where we are — but that really is wishful thinking.

Yours (in transit),
ZANDRIA PAUNCEFORT,
Swan House, Avebury, Wiltshire.

Winged harpies?

From Mr Stephen Caney

Sir, I notice in the School News of May 11 that the Dragon School, Oxford, have invited Old Dragons, parents and friends to a Dragon Ball.

Is one allowed to send one's mother-in-law?

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN CANEY,
32 Kennedy Road,
Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 12: The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended the Ascot Charity Race Day Ball at the Ascot Pavilion, Ascot Racecourse, Berkshire.

Sir Brian McGrath was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of The Queen, held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Queen was represented by Sir Conrad Swan (Garter King of Arms) at the Funeral of Sir Anthony Wagner (formerly Garter King of Arms) which was held in St Benet Paul's Wharf Church, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4, this morning.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr Roger Holmes.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 12: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended the Ascot Charity Race Day Ball at the Ascot Pavilion, Ascot Racecourse, Berkshire.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 12: The Princess Royal, Patron, this morning launched the Scottish Institute for Sports Medicine and Sports Science, and afterwards chaired a meeting of the Advisory Council at the Lodge, University of Strathclyde, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Glasgow (Mr Thomas Dingwall, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

Her Royal Highness, President, Scottish Chambers of Commerce, this afternoon attended the British Chambers of Commerce Conference at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Aberdeen (Mr James Wyness, the Lord Provost).

The Princess Royal, Patron, College of Occupational Therapists, later opened the Fulton Clinic and Commemorative Garden, Royal Cornhill Hospital, Aberdeen.

Mrs Charles Ritchie was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 12: The Prince of Wales received Commodore Anthony Morrow this morning upon assuming his appointment as Commodore Royal Yachts.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Australian Armoured Corps, this afternoon received Colonel Gordon Jones (Director).

The Prince of Wales later gave a Reception for the Conference of European Union Speakers at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness, Patron, Music in Country Churches, this evening attended a Concert at Holy Trinity Church, Blythburgh, Suffolk.

Dr Manon Williams was in attendance.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Dante Alighieri, poet, Florence, 1265; Sir Arthur Sullivan, composer, London, 1842; Sir Frank Brangwyn, painter, Bruges, 1867; Georges Braque, Cubist, Argenteuil, France, 1882; Daphne du Maurier, novelist, London, 1907; Joe Louis, world heavyweight boxing champion 1937-49, Lexington, Alabama, 1914.

DEATHS: John Nash, architect, Cowes, 1835; Alfred Milner, Viscount Milner, imperialist, Sturry Court, near Canterbury, 1925; Fridtjof Nansen, explorer and statesman, Nobel Peace laureate, 1922, Lysaker, Norway, 1930; Gary Cooper, actor, Los Angeles, 1961.

The first permanent English settlement in America was established at Jamestown, Virginia, 1607.

The German economy totally collapsed, 1927.

Italian and German forces in Africa surrendered, 1943.

Pope John Paul II survived an assassination attempt by a Turkish gunman in St Peter's Square, 1981.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Thomas Gainsborough, painter, Sudbury, Suffolk, 1727; George Barrington, pickpocket and writer, Maynooth, Co Kildare, 1755; Sir Squire Bancroft, actor-manager, Rotherhithe, 1841; Otto Klemperer, conductor, Breslau, Germany, 1885; Eric Morecambe, comedian, Morecambe, 1926; Bobby Darin, singer, songwriter and actor, New York City, 1936.

DEATHS: August Strindberg, dramatist, Stockholm, 1912; Sir Rider Haggard, novelist, London, 1925; Edmund Allenby, 1st Viscount Allenby of Megiddo, Field Marshal, Southwell, Nottinghamshire, 1936.

British physician Edward Jenner carried out the first successful vaccination against smallpox, 1796.

The Illustrated London News was first published, 1842.

The independent state of Israel was proclaimed with David Ben-Gurion as Prime Minister, 1948.

Inner Temple

Duke of Edinburgh Entrance Scholarships, 1995, which defray the cost of admission to the Inn and Call to the Bar have been awarded to the following:

Azad Ali, Exeter College, Oxford; Steven Ball, University of Hull; Balvinder Banga, St John's College, Cambridge; Elizabeth Berridge, Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Zachary Bredemear, University of Reading, and University College London; Alexandra Buckland, University of Leicester.

Christopher Camp, Downing College, Cambridge; Toby Case, Southampton University; Sarah Coleman, King's College, London; Jeremy Colgan, Queen's University, Belfast; Samantha Crabb, University of Liverpool; Sarah-Jane Davies, Clare College, Cambridge; Anneliese Day, Clare College, Cambridge; Damian Edwards, Clare College, Cambridge.

Miriam Greenald, Durham University; Robin Halstead, New College, Oxford; Henrietta Hill, Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Robert Hoyle, University of Cambridge, University of Oxford and Oxford Brookes University; Jonathan I'Anson, University of Sheffield; Nicholas Jeudwine-Barnes, University of Westminster; Birinder Kang, London School of Economics; Mansur Khawar, Oxford University and Manchester University; James King, Southampton University.

Carol Maria Lightbound, University of Liverpool; Eammon McArdle, University of East Anglia and Queen's University Belfast; Catherine McCahey, University of Nottingham; Conor McCloskey, University of North London; David McLeod Smith, City University, London; Patricia McTigue, Sussex University and Birmingham University; Joanna Miles, University of Nottingham; Sean Moore, University of Kent, Canterbury; Andrew James Morgan, Jesus College, Cambridge; Stephen Morley, University of Westminster.

Alison Oakes, University of Durham and College of Law; Eoin O'Shea, National University of Ireland and Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge; Claire Packman, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, and City University; Philip Paschalides, University of St Andrews and City University; Ewan Paton, New College, Oxford; Sarah Pengelly, St Peter's College, Oxford and London Guildhall University; Timothy Petts, Jesus College, Oxford.

Martin Reynolds, Robinson College, Cambridge, and University of West England, Bristol; Giles Richardson, Merton College, Oxford; Anthony Rippa, University of Southampton; Julia Smyth, King's College, London; Rhys Taylor, Reading University; Andrew Thomas, Balliol College, Oxford; Adele Tomlin, University of Warwick; Christopher Townley, University of Durham and College D'Europe, Bruges, Belgium; Peter Ward, University of London and Thames Valley University; Toby Watkin, St John's College, Cambridge.

School news

Sherborne School
The following awards have been made at Sherborne School:

Scholarships
R.D. Reason (Top), Papplewick; O.B. Harvey (Ross Wallace), Sherborne Prep; J.M.S. Bain, Brambletye; E.W. Binks, Westbourne House; W.M. Drayton, Yateley Manor; S.N. Long, The Old Malthouse and Sherborne; W.E.H. McDonald, Horris Hill and Sherborne; O.P. Minns, Port Regis.

Exhibitions
G.C.S. Bailey, Mount House; R.M. Collins, Hazlegrove House; J.R. Habershon, Westbourne House; W.T. Kipling, Sherborne Prep; M.P. Sidney, Hazlegrove House; R.T.S. Harland (Nutting), Hazlegrove House; A.B. Perowne (Raban), Hazlegrove House.

Jeremy Irons
B.J. Davies, Mount House; J.W. Fairlie, Pilgrims'; C.J.P. Hopkins, Twyford; A. Sumner-Pike, Vinehall.

Art Exhibitions
B.W. Adams, Twyford; S. Clay, Sunningdale; T.R. Dowdall, Cumnor House; D.M.E. Paterson, The Cathedral School, Llandaff.

Sixth Form Scholarship
Sik Kar Chao (Crawhall-Wilson), Sherborne School International Study Centre.

Sixth Form Exhibitions
J.M.A. Allen, Clayesmore; S.S. Bhanji, St Andrew's, Kenya; D.C. Maxwell, Down High, N Ireland; P. Roengpithya, Sherborne School International Study Centre.

Music Scholarships
R.D. Reason, Papplewick; W.G.A. Rider, Dulwich College Prep; A.M. Vickery, Perrott Hill.

Music Exhibitions
T.R. Dowdall, Cumnor House; W.M. Drayton, Yateley Manor; W.O. Ridgeon, Newland House; J.G.A.L. Rolleston, Wellesley House.

The school has charitable status and exists for the education of boys.

Dinners

University of Southampton Society
Lord Jellicoe, Chancellor of Southampton University, Professor Howard Newby, Vice-Chancellor, and Mr Kingsley Williams, Chairman of Council, were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the University of Southampton Society held last night at Lincoln's Inn. Mr Clinton Silver presided.

Royal Society of Edinburgh
Dr Tom Johnston, President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, was the host at the triennial dinner of the society held last night at the Signet Library, Edinburgh. Mr Bruce Millan, an honorary fellow, was the principal speaker. Among those present were:
Lord Hope (Lord Justice General and Lord President of the Court of Session), Sir James Black, FRS, Sir James Menter, FRS, Dr Bridget Ogilvie (director, Wellcome Trust), Dr John D. Cash (president, Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh), Mr Andrew Hardie, QC (Dean of the Faculty of Advocates), Mr William Baillie (president, Royal Scottish Academy) and Mr Andrew Wright (president, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland).

President

Mr Emanuel Hurwitz has become President of the Incorporated Society of Musicians in succession to Dr Philip Ledger.

JULIAN HERBERT



The Queen, on a visit to Windsor Horse Show yesterday, studies a barn owl which was part of a flying wild bird display

Fleur de Fleurs luncheon

Margot, Countess of Buckinghamshire wishes to express her regrets that the 14th Fleur de Fleurs luncheon in aid of the Royal Marsden Cancer Appeal, which was to be held on May 30, at the Dorchester Hotel, has been cancelled due to illness. For further information please call Mr Jeremy Ward on 0171 352 4686.

Appointments

Mr Hugh Ian Lang Laddie, QC, to be a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Chancery Division.

Mr Murray Lawrence Creed to be a full-time Chairman of Industrial Tribunals, assigned to the Manchester Region.

Mr Robert Jeffrey Moore to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the North Eastern Circuit.

Her Majesty's Household

To be Chaplains:
Canon John Sykes, Vicar of St Mary with St Peter, Oldham, and Team Rector of the Parish of Oldham, in the room of the late Canon Richard Thomas Wright McDermid.

Canon Ivor Gill Smith-Cameron, Canon Residentiary Emeritus of Southwark Cathedral, in the room of the late Rev David Theophilus Tonge.

Justices' Clerks' Society

The following have been appointed officers of the Justices' Clerks' Society:
Mr A.R. Heath (Solihull), president; Mr D.A.W.H. Chandler (Bradford), senior vice-president; Mr L.G.C. Cramp (South Somerset), junior vice-president and honorary secretary; Mr A. Moore, (Scunthorpe Brigg and Barton), honorary treasurer.

Weekend birthdays

Today
Sir Crispin Agnew of Lochnaw, explorer and herald, 51; Mr W.A. Allen, deputy director monetary analysis, Bank of England, 47; Miss Bea Arthur, actress, 70; Sir John Cope, MP, 58; Miss Eileen Diss, theatrical designer, 64; Mr M.W.R. Dobson, group chief executive, Morgan Grenfell Group, 43; Mr Robert Earnshaw, racehorse trainer, 36; Mr Peter Gabriel, singer, 45; General John Galvin, former Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, 66; Dr Jane Glover, conductor, 46; Sir John Habakkuk, former Principal, Jesus College, Oxford, 80; Mr Anthony Hide, racehorse trainer, 56; Sir John Johnston, diplomat, 77; Mr Harvey Keitel, actor, 56; Sir Laurence Kirwan, archaeologist, 88; the Earl of Leven and Melville, 71; Sir Sydney Lipworth, former chairman, Monopolies and Mergers Commission, 64; Mr Richard Madeley, broadcaster, 39; Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, former Prime Minister of Fiji, 75; Sir Ronald Miller, company chairman, 58; Sir Paul Osmond, civil servant, 78; the Earl of Perth, 88; Mr Tim Pigott-Smith, actor, 49; Sir Alfred Pugsley, civil engineer, 92; Mr Alan Rayfield, former Governor, Long Lartin prison, 59; Miss Selina Scott, broadcaster, 44; Miss Helen Sharman, astronaut, 32; Sir Conrad Swan, Garter Principal King of Arms, 71; Marquess Townshend, 79; Sir William Utting, former chief inspector, Social Services Inspectorate, 64; Miss Zoë Wanamaker, actress, 46; Mr Stevie Wonder, singer, 45.

Tomorrow
Miss Francesca Annis, actress, 50; Mr David Ashby, MP, 55; Mr Richard Balfe, MEP, 51; Dr Hastings Banda, life President of Malawi, 90; Mr Chay Blyth, yachtsman, 55; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Buchanan, 70; Mr Denis Cannan, dramatist, 76; Sir David Cooksey, chairman, Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the NHS in England and Wales, 55; Mr Phil Drabble, broadcaster, 81; Sir Owen Green, former chairman, BTR, 70; Baroness Hogg, former head of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit, 49; Mr R.D.C. Hubbard, chairman, Powell Duffryn, 59; Mr G.R. Lister, chief executive, Bradford and Bingley Building Society, 58; Mr George Lucas, film director and producer, 51; Lord McAlpine of West Green, 53; Mr Martin Mogg, former Governor, Durham prison, 54; Mr Edward Newman, MEP, 42; Canon John Oates, rector, St Bride's, Fleet Street, 65; Miss Siân Phillips, actress, 61; Sir Peregrine Rhodes, diplomat, 70; Sir Adam Ridley, executive director, Hambros Bank, 53; Mr Leslie Sharp, Chief Constable, Strathclyde, 59; Mrs Patricia Turner, trade unionist, 68; Judge Adrianne Uziell-Hamilton, 63.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Maxine Marsh, Assistant Curate, Kings Norton Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Saints Peter and Paul, Kingsbury (Birmingham).

The Rev Keith Owen, Priest-in-charge, St Botolph's, Lincoln and Chaplain to the Caring Agencies (Lincoln): to be Vicar, Steeton and Anglican Chaplain of Airedale General Hospital (Bradford).

The Rev Christine Redgrave, Team Vicar, Bracknell Team Ministry: to be also Assistant Director of Ordinands for the archdeaconry of Berkshire (Oxford).

The Rev Glynn Richerby, Vicar, St James the Greater, Leicester: to be also Director of Continuing Ministerial Education (Leicester).

The Rev Neill Robb, Vicar, Norley and Crowton: to be also Priest-in-charge, St John, Kingsley (Chester).

The Rev Dr Martin Roberts, Team Rector, Holy Spirit, Leicester, and Senior Chaplain de Montfort University of Leicester (Leicester): to be Vicar, Berkswich (Lichfield).

The Rev Canon David Rhys, Rector, St Mary w St Michael, Woolwich: to be Vicar (part-time), St Mark's, North Downham in the Catford (Southend) and Downham Team Ministry (Southwark).

The Rev Alastair Wheeler, Vicar, Christ Church, Nailsea: to be *also* Rural Dean of Portishead (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Robert Whittaker, Rector, united benefice of Norwell, Ossington, Cromwell and Caunton: to be Resident Chaplain and Head of Divinity at Ranby House School, Ranby, Notts (Southwell).

The Rev Kenneth Woolhouse, Chaplain, West Sussex Institution of Higher Education (Chichester): to be Team Vicar, North Lambeth Team Ministry w special responsibility for St Peter's, Vauxhall (Southwark).

The Rev John Young, Chaplain to Leicester University and Team Vicar, within the Holy Spirit Team Ministry, Leicester: to be Vicar, St Hugh, Eyres Monsell (Leicester).

Resignations and retirements
The Rev Michael Barber, Vicar, St Martin, Perry Common (Birmingham): to resign as from October 31.

The Rev Canon Walter Beswick: to retire as a non-Residentiary Canon of York as from the June 30, and then to be appointed a Canon Emeritus of York, with permission to officiate in the diocese of York.

The Rev Canon Raymond Lee, Priest-in-charge, St Michael and All Angels, Altcar, and an Honorary Canon of Liverpool Cathedral (Liverpool): to retire as from June 30, when he will be appointed a Canon Emeritus, and Priest-in-charge (NSM), St Michael and All Angels, Altcar, same diocese.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.J. Appleton and Miss V.J. Ruppel
The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Appleton, of Mississauga, Canada, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ernest Ruppel, of Stourbridge.

Captain A.P. Shannon and Miss K.E. Wratten
The engagement is announced between Alasdair Patrick, son of Mr Michael Shannon, of Whitford, North Wales, and Mrs Jackie Shannon, of Stamford, Lincolnshire, and Kate Elizabeth, younger daughter of Air Chief Marshal Sir William and Lady Wratten, of Great Kingshill, Buckinghamshire.

Marriage

Mr A.T. Rougier and Miss N.A.R. Butterfill
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 6, at St Mary's, Worplesdon, between Toby, second son of Major General and Mrs Jeremy Rougier, of Hatherleigh, Devon, and Natasha, eldest daughter of Mr John Butterfill, MP, and Mrs Butterfill, of Worplesdon, Surrey. The Rev Roger Robins officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs Amanda Roundhill, Miss Yolanda Keverne, Miss Samara Butterfill and Miss Jemima Butterfill. Mr Tim Surridge was best man.

The reception was held at the home of the bride.

Service dinners

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers
Brigadier D.A.K. Biggart, Deputy Colonel of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers for Warwickshire, presided at a dinner of the Fusilier Officers' Club, Royal Warwickshire, held last night at the Council House, Birmingham.

HAC
General Sir Michael Wilkes, Colonel Commandant of the Honourable Artillery Company, and Lady Wilkes were present at a Mess Club dinner held last night at Armoury House. Mr John Challis presided. Mr Roger Howells and Miss Judith Mayhew also spoke.

The Middlesex Regiment (DCO)
Brigadier B.A.M. Pielow presided at the annual dinner of the Middlesex Regiment (DCO) Officers' Club held last night at the Naval and Military Club.

Ambassador

Mr Nick McCarthy to be Ambassador (non-resident) to Gabon in succession to Mr W.E. Quantrill who has retired.

Church services tomorrow

Fourth Sunday after Easter

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Vaughan Williams in D minor, Alleluia Dextera Domini, O salutaris hostia (Sumsion), Rev Canon A Luff; 4 Choral E, Great love hath no man (Ireland).

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Choral M; 10.30 Euch, Little organ mass (Haydn), The Provost; 4 Choral E, Lo the full final sacrifice (Finzi), Canon J Hall.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, Ubi Caritas (Duruflé), Missa Brevis (Ives), Let thy merciful ears (Mudd), Canon T McClure; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Sumsion), Jackson in G, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Canon A Redfern.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Rev D Hamer; 11 S Euch, Mass (Frank Martin), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), The Dean; 3.15 E, Purcell in B flat, O God thou art my God (Purcell); 6.30 Compline, Rev P Brett.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Ubi caritas (Duruflé), Archdeacon D Turnbull; 3 E, Walsh (Responses), Greater Love (Ireland).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Vice Provost; 11.15 Choral M, Coll Reg (Howells), Responses (Reading), Sing we merrily (Campbell), Canon D Knight; 6 Festival E, O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Blow), Purcell in G minor, O sing unto the Lord (Purcell), The Archdeacon.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9 Prayers & Banner blessing; 10 Choral M & Baptism, Responses (Rose), Stanford in B flat, Canon M Rees; 11.30 Choral Euch, Schubert in G; 3.30 Choral E, Francis Jackson in G, When the Lord turned again (Batten); 6.30 ES, Canon M Rees.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Boyce in C, Responses (Rose), Blessed be the Lord God (Nares), The Priest Vicar; 11 S Euch, Coll Reg (Howells), Jesu dulcis memoria (Shepard), The Bursalis Prebendary; 3.30 E, Second Service (Gibbons), Sing ye to the Lord (Bairstow).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Stanford in C, This joyful Eastertide (Wood), Come my way (Vaughan Williams), V Rev J Petty; 3 German Lutherans (Chapel of Unity); 5.30 E, O come ye servants (Tye), Zadok the Priest (Handel).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Stanford in B flat, Christ ist erstanden! (Schubert), The Precentor; 11.15 HC, Stanford in B flat, Be still my soul (Whitlock), Canon M Perry; 3.30 E, Stanford in B flat, Sunrising (Casken).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, The Lord is risen/Yea though I walk (Sullivan), Rev Dr J Binns; 3.45 E, Preces (Rose), Thou O Lord art our Father (Sullivan), 6.30 Taize Service.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Up up my heart (Carol), Missa Brevis (Caesar), Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), The Precentor; 11.30 M, Responses (Shephard), Statham in C, Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Stanford), Bishop of Guildford; 3 E, Responses (Shephard), Tis the day of Resurrection (Wood); 6.30 E, Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley), The Treasurer.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Schubert in G, Hallelujah Amen (Handel), V Rev R Lewis; 2.30 Church Lads' & Girls' Brigade Service; 4 Choral E, Walmisley in D minor, Responses (Ayleward), Set me as a seal (Walton), Canon Chancellor.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass for four voices/Ave verum corpus (Byrd), The Precentor; 3.30 Staffordshire Young & Community Service.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Panis Angelicus (Franck), Canon A Denaux; 11.15 M, Ireland in F, Christ rising again (Weelkes); 3.45 E, Fifth service/My beloved spake (Tomkins), Responses (Ayleward).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Canon M Boyling; 3 Choral E, Wood in D, Rev G Davies; 4 H.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8, 12.15 H Euch; Rev J Redvers Harris; 9 S Euch, Rev J Williams; 11 S Euch, Gloria in excelsis Deo (Weelkes), The Canon; 3.30 Choral E, Walford Davies in D, Ye choirs of new Jerusalem (Shephard); 6.30 E, The Dean.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton), Canon A Radcliffe, Tantum ergo (Duruflé); 6.30 E, Noble in A minor, Responses (Ayleward), Gaelic blessing (Rutter), Rev C Vann.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 8, Canon I Bennett; 9.30 Canon B Langley, Stanford in C & F, Haec dies (Byrd), Canon I Bennett; 3 Newcastle Guide Association Dedication Service; 6, What e'er I do believe (Ritchie), Coll Magdalenae Oxoniense (Leighton), I was glad (Hubert Parry).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Spatzen-Messe/Ave verum corpus (Mozart), Canon B Jenneker; 11.30 M, Chichester Service (Walton), Blessed be the God and Father (SS Wesley); 6 Taize Service.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Missa sancti nicolai (Haydn), O salutaris hostia (Elgar), Rev Canon R White; 3 E, Second service (Gibbons), My beloved spake (Purcell), Rev Canon M Kitchen.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M, The Librarian; 10 S Euch, Te es Petrus (Duruflé), Schubert in G, The Chancellor; 6 E, Responses (Aylward), Gloucester Service (Howells), How lovely are thy dwellings (Brahms).

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon D O'Connors; 9.15 C, Song of the tree of life (Vaughan Williams), Canon D Baxter; 11 S Euch, Mass of the Quiet hour (Oldroyd), Stanford in B flat, Canon I Knox; 6.30 E, Responses (Rose), Coll Reg (Howells), Love divine (Bielby), The Archdeacon of Halifax.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Darke in E, O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), Rev P de N Lucas; 11.30 M, Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé); 3 E, The Coventry Service (Whettam), O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Howells), Ven R Acworth; 6.30 Christian Aid Week Service.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Stanford in C, Expectans expectavi (Wood), Canon D Hutt; 11.15 Euch, Missa brevis (Leighton), Haec dies (Byrd), God be my head (Radcliffe), Rev J Goodall; 3 E, Magdalen Service/Let all the world (Leighton), Sr L Byrne; 6.30 ES, Canon C Semper.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12.15, 5.30 7 M; 10.30 SM, Mass in G major (Poulenc), Jubilate Deo omnis terra (Philips), Grand Choeur in D (Guilmant); 10 MP; 3.30 V & B, Ad coenam Agni Providi/Magnificat tertii toni (Victoria), Great is the Lord (Elgar), Choral Song & Fugue (Wesley).

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Britten in C, Turn back O man (Holst), V Rev D Edwards, Prelude in G (Bach); 11.30 Euch, Christe aller welt trost (Bach); 3.30 E, Deep river (Tippett), Canon Walker.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Darke in F, O salutaris hostia (Tallis), V Rev R Furnell; 11.30 M, Ireland in F, Responses (Rose); 4 E, Naylor in A, Rev Canon R Metcalfe.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral M, Responses (Clucas), Jubilate & Te Deum (Ireland), Beati quorum via (Stanford), Rev S Griffiths.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, St John of God (Haydn), Fr P Turner; 4 Multi Cultural Mass.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8, 10 MS HC, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), The Minister; 11.30 MS, Except the Lord build the house (Handel), The Minister; 8 ES, Rev S Mitchell.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Missa brevis (Mozart), Most glorious Lord of life (Harris), Jubilate in B flat (Walton), Rev M Saward; 3.15 E, My beloved spake (Purcell), Rt Rev J Klyberg.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Brevis (Leighton), Surgens Jesus (Philips), Rev P McGeary; 6 E&B, Sumsion in G, My beloved spake (Hadley), Rev P Johnstone.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa III (Monteverdi), Jubilate Deo (Mozart).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children's service; 11 M, Purcell in B flat, Dixit Dominus (Mozart), Dr M Lukina; 12.15 HC; 6 E, Rev P Elvy.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa in hon S Joseph (Albrechtsberger), Tota pulchra es Maria (Lambert), Fr V Hawe.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC, Tom Peek; 11 Informal, Rev N Gumbel; 5, 7.30 Informal, Rev S Millar.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Ut re mi fa sol la (Morales), Ave Virgo sanctissima (Guerrero), 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, O bone Jesu (Dering).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 MP, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R John Tudor.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev Dr J Fuliga; 7 V, Rev J Evenson.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 10.45 Squadron Commemoration; 11 M, Boyce in A, St John Passion final Chorale (Bach), Rev M St John Channell; 6.30 E, Blow in the Dorian mode, A Haec dies (Arcadelt), Ven M Colclough.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral Euch, Ireland in F, Byrd 5 part, Panis angelicus (Rebelo), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Reading), Day in B flat, I was glad/O Sing unto the Lord (Purcell), Canon J Oates.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev H McIndoe; 6.30 Rev W Cairns.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Mass in D (Kitson), Erstanden ist der heil'ge Christ (Bach).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Nourse in B, How beautiful upon the mountains (Stainer), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch, John Paul, Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Kelly), And I saw a new heaven (Bainton), Mr D Fisher; 6 Choral E, Murrill in E, Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem (Stanford).

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family, Rev J Richardson; 6.30 HC, Rev M Holmden.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, If ye love me (Tallis), Rev D Watson; 6.30 E, Laudate Dominum (Mozart), Rev D Watson.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Stanford in B flat, Laudate Dominum (Pitoni), Rev J Yates.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Coll Reg (Howells), O God thou art my God (Purcell), Rev P Cowell.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Rev Godsall; 11.30 Visitors, G Patterson, 2.45 Chinese, Rev C Lee; 5 Choral E; 6.30 ES, Rev J Pridmore.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 9.30 Euch, The Vicar; 11.15 Choral M, Mr N Pain; 6.30 E, Rev F Gelli.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7.30 LM; 11 HM, Missa Gia fu chi m'hebbe cara (Palestrina), Fr B Scott; 6 E&B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Rev J Overden, Coll Reg (Howells), Haec Dies (Byrd); 6 EP.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Aedis Christi (Mathias), Beati quorum via (Stanford), Laudate nomen Domini (Tye), Rev Canon P Pilkington.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Britten), Surrexit christus spes mea (Mendelssohn), Sonata V (Mendelssohn), Fr A Chidwick.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Salve Regina (Peter Eben), O Sacrum Convivium (Messiaen), Canon C Colven.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Smith), Stanford in A, Christus resurgens (Lassus), Canon J Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, O clap your hands (Gibbons), Rev A Harbottle.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Boyce in A, Lift up your heads O ye gates (Handel); 3.30 E, These are they (Goss), Harwood in A flat, O quam gloriosum (Byrd).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), My beloved spake (Hadley), Theme & Variations (Andriessen), Rev S Hobbs.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Britten in E, Zodak the Priest (Handel), The Chaplain.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (Radcliffe), Moeran in E flat, In exitu Israel (Wesley), The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Recordare Domine (Byrd), Christ whose glory fills the skies (Armstrong), The Chaplain; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch (ASB), O Lord support us (Besley), To thee O Lord (Rachmaninov), Rev K McCormack.

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Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; but the woman who fears the Lord is honoured. Proverbs 31 : 30 (REB)

BIRTHS

BOSCHE-LENOIR - On May 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Anne and Pierre, a son, Félix Valentin Olivier, a brother for Louis.

DARELL - On May 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Samantha and Guy, a son, Harry Thomas Adair.

ELWELL - On 26th April 1995 at Rintein Germany, to Lisa (née Urbina) and Richard, a son, William Andrew Stuart, a brother for Alexander.

HUNT - On May 6th, to Jeremy and Georgina (née Darvell), a daughter, Amelia Lucy Ann.

KELLY - On May 10th, to Elizabeth (née Eaglestone) and Benedict, a son, Marcus Benedict Noel, a brother for Thomas and Humphrey.

LAWRENCE - On 11th May at Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, to Heather (née Bunting) and Mark, a son, Geoffrey James Percival.

MACDONALD-SMITH - On May 12th, in Winchester, to Alex (née Foster) and Iain, a son, Sam Robert Somerled, a brother for Iona.

MALCA - On May 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Fiona (née Clemo) and Salomon, a beautiful baby girl, Daniela Carolyn, a sister to Jessica.

MILLER - On 4th May, to Fiona (née Vella) and Simon, a daughter, Grace Jermain.

MITCHELL - On 4th May 1995, in Virginia U.S.A., to Rose Anne (née Hall) and Lorne, a son, Rory Lyle Campbell, a brother for Yolande and Torin.

PETTEFIR - On 3rd May, to Sarah (née Churchill) and Geoff, a baby girl, Rose Patricia. God Bless xxxxx

POMEROY - On 10th May 1995, to Caroline (née Grindle) and Henry, a son, Patrick Christopher.

PREVEZER - On 9th May 1995, to Sara (née Weston) and Robert, a daughter, Gail Ellen, a sister for Benjamin and Emily.

RULE - Duncan and Sue (née Jarvis) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Alexandra Mary, on 5th May 1995.

SPARROW - On 9th May, to Jay (née Jefferson) and Edward, a son, Edward, and a daughter, Catriona, siblings for Tamsin, Benedicta, Christopher, Charles and Anna!

SYMES - On May 8th at Pietersburg, South Africa, to Camilla (née Tice) and Andrew, a son, Robert Jack Barrington.

WEIR - On May 11th 1995, to Fiona (née Cameron) and Mark, a son, Hamish, a playmate for Miggins.

WILSON - On April 23rd, to Kate (née Emms) and Duncan, a son, Daniel Edward George, a brother for Harry.

MARRIAGES

MALTBY:PARFITT - On May 9th 1995 between Alan Vivian Maltby and Julia Gaye Parfitt at Canterbury, Kent.

DEATHS

BLACK - On Wednesday 10th May, Brigadier John Gordon, aged 89, of Elgin, Moray. Peacefully after a long illness. Beloved husband of Marjorie and father of Jennifer, Veronica and John. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Elgin on Tuesday 16th May at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Erskine Hospital, Bishopton, Renfrewshire.

BONE - On May 7th 1995, peacefully in hospital after a long illness, Tony, aged 79, much loved husband of Fey, father of Suzanne and Christopher, grandfather of Robert, Andrew, Christine, Alexander, Simon and Richard. Mass at Holy Name, Arbrook Lane, Claygate, at 2pm on May 17th, followed by interment at Cobham Cemetery at 3pm. Donations, if desired, to Barnardos Homes.

COATES - On 10th May 1995, Sonja, widow of John Coates, writer, much loved mother of Kay, Clive, Paul and Guy, aged 80. Cremation will take place at Golders Green Crematorium on Wednesday 17th May at 15.45.

CUTFORTH - On May 12th 1995, at High Crag, Sawrey, Robin, much loved husband, father and grandfather to Sara, Carolyn, Peter, Michael, Murray and Iona. Funeral at St Michael's Church, Hawkshead, on Wednesday May 17th at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Cancer Relief MacMillan Fund of Cancer Care, South Lakeland, Slynedales, Lancaster LA2 6AW.

DEWBURY - Vivienne Mary, on 8th May after a long illness, dearly loved wife of Brian and devoted mother to Russell, Sean and Amanda. Funeral at St Peter's, Sharnbrook, Monday 15th May at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research Endowment Fund, Addenbrookes, Cambridge.

DOBSON - On 11th May, Alan Fullforth, O.B.E., beloved husband of Fay, father of Hilary and Angela and grandfather of Mark, Sofia, Joe, Natasha and Cristina. Funeral Wednesday 17th May at Salisbury Crematorium at 1.40 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for Salisbury Hospice Care Trust c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 1HL.

ELKINGTON - On 11th May 1995, in a Worthing nursing home, Hazel. Funeral Service 12.20 pm on Thursday 18th May at Worthing Crematorium. All enquiries to H.D. Tribe Ltd., 130 Broadwater Road, Worthing, West Sussex, tel: (01903) 234516.

JACKSON - William Patrick, on 8th May 1995, aged 81 years, passed peacefully away at the Mayday Hospital, Croydon, beloved father of Angela, Katie and Roger. Funeral Service at South London Crematorium on Friday 19th May at 2 pm. Flowers, if desired, to CWS Funeral Services, 679 Garratt Lane, Earlsfield, SW17 0PB.

JULER - Humphrey Desmond, peacefully at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford, on 9th May. Much loved father of Patricia, Peter and Caroline, brother of Pauline. A private funeral will be held in Charlbury. A Memorial Service will be announced. Donations to the King George's Fund for Sailors and Charlbury Youth Hostel.

KINGSLAND - On May 11th, at home peacefully and with dignity after a brave fight against cancer, Toni Daniels Kingsland, widow of Robert R. Kingsland D.F.C. (R.C.A.F.). Loved and mourned by many relations and friends in Britain and Canada. Funeral on Thursday 18th May at 2.30pm at Cheltenham Crematorium. Family flowers only please to Selim Smith, Prestbury Road, Cheltenham. Donations if desired for Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Lloyds Bank, Rotunda Branch, Cheltenham.

MALONE - Douglas, on 10th May 1995, after long illness bravely borne, beloved husband of Thelma and devoted father of Timothy and Catherine. Formerly of the Royal Naval Supply and Transport Service, PSTO Gibraltar 1969-1972. Requiem 19th May. Enquiries Uden's (01689) 822291.

MITCHELL INNES - On May 10th peacefully, Marion, beloved wife of the late Ian and mother of David and James. Funeral Service at Christ Church, Winchester, on Wednesday May 17th at 3pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Dummer P.C.C. c/o Jno. Steel and Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

MONTEITH - Charles Montgomery, on 9th May 1995. Funeral Service at St Saviour's Church, Warwick Avenue, London W9, on Wednesday 17th May at 12 noon. Memorial Service to be announced later. Enquiries to A. France & Son (0171) 405-4901.

PHILLIPS - On May 11th 1995, John Phillips, actor, aged 80, at his Shropshire home. Beloved husband of Pauline and loving and much loved father and grandfather. Cremation Shrewsbury, Monday May 22nd at 2.40 pm. Family flowers only.

POWER - James Francis (Jim), wonderful husband of Maureen and devoted and dearly loved father of Timothy, Simon, Matthew, Lucy and Philippa and grandfather of Natasha and Edward, died suddenly in Devon on 10th May 1995, aged 62 years. Requiem Mass on Wednesday 17th May, 1995 at 12.15 pm at the University Catholic Chaplaincy, The Old Palace, St Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1RD. Enquiries to Reeves and Pain Funeral Director, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford. (01865) 242529.

RAY - On May 9th, Fred, aged 78 years, of Plymouth, former Defence Lands Agent, husband of Iris, father of Mark. Will be sadly missed. Donations for the Royal Brompton Hospital (Heart Equipment) may be sent to Walter Parson, 2 Market Road, Plympton, Plymouth, PL7 3QW, tel: (01752) 343848.

ROGERS - On 10th May, peacefully in South Brent, Devon, Paul Bernard aged 85. Director of Music Bryanston School 1932-1970. Enquiries to Perrings, (01803) 862417.

RUSSELL - James on 10th May, peacefully at Lewes Victoria Hospital, aged 89 years, much loved husband of Joan. Funeral Service at St John's sub Castro Church, Lewes, on Friday, 19th May at 1.45 pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to the Lewes Victoria Hospital League of Friends c/o Cooper & Son Funeral Services, 42 High Street, Lewes, E. Sussex, tel: (01273) 475557.

STODDART - On May 12th, peacefully at home after a short illness, Barbara Vincent aged 87 of Westbourne, Hampshire, beloved wife of Frank, dearly loved mother of Michael and of the late Christopher and Graham, grandmother of nine, and great-grandmother of four. She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service at Funtington Church near Chichester at 12noon on Wednesday May 17th. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council c/o F.A. Holland & Son, 3, Jubilee Road, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1XJ.

WALLACE - Suddenly in hospital on May 11th, Rev. Marjorie Emily Wallace B.A., F.I.P.M., dearly loved sister of Hazel. Funeral Service at St Paul's Church, Hammersmith, on Thursday May 18th at 1.15 pm, followed by private cremation at Mortlake. Flowers to W.S. Bond, 127 Fulham Palace Road, W6.

WARDE-ALDAM - On May 11th, reluctantly of leukaemia, Christopher Ralph aged 66 years. Loving and dearly loved husband of Jane, and of their children Annabelle, Guy and Mark and grandchildren Matthew, Elinor and Joe. Cremation private. Service at St Peter's Church, Stoke Lyne, on Friday May 19th at midday.

YELDHAM - On May 11th 1995, at home after an illness bravely borne, Dorothy Mary aged 85 years - Dearly loved widow of Ronnie and mother of Elizabeth (Liz who died in 1976) and John. Adored by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will be sorely missed by her many friends and relatives. There will be a quiet funeral at Guildford Crematorium on Tuesday 16th May at 2.30pm and a Service of Thanksgiving at the Chapel Royal, Windsor Great Park, at 12 noon on Thursday 29th June. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to MacMillan Nursing. Enquiries to H.C. Patrick Funeral Directors (01252) 714884.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BOLTON - A Memorial Service will be held for the late Brig. Lyndon Bolton D.S.O., D.L., R.H.A. (retd) in St Michael's Church, Alnwick, Northumberland, on Saturday 10th June at 11.30 am.

IN MEMORIAM – WAR

BOISSIER - On this 50th anniversary, Martin and Roger remember with affection their older brother, John Richard, Sub Lieutenant RNVR, who lost his life, aged 21, on 13 May 1945, when his ship, MGB 2002, was destroyed by a mine in the Skagerrak. We also remember members of the crew and other Naval and RAF personnel on board, who lost their lives en route from Aberdeen to Gothenburg. We also remember our father, Commander Ernest Boissier DSC, who, 80 years ago on 25 April 1915, landed at Gallipoli with the Howe Battalion, Royal Naval Division.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

ALSAATI - Shems, died 13th May 1994. Sorely missed, Mum and Dad, Sara, Thea, Maria, Susan and Ross.

BRISTER - Twenty years ago tomorrow, on Mount Nuptse, Nepal, David, Lieutenant, Intelligence Corps. Greatly loved, greatly missed.

MEES - Sally (formerly Thomas). Died May 14th 1987. Much missed by her daughters. In God we trust.

PRIOR - Louis, born May 14th 1895. Remembered today and always with pride gratitude and love, Peter.

SITUATIONS VACANT

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OBITUARIES

COMMANDER ARTHUR POMEROY



Pomeroy's last wartime command, the light cruiser *HMS Delhi*, modernised and rearmed for her foray into the Adriatic where she acted in support of not-always-grateful Yugoslav partisans in the winter of 1944-45

Commander Arthur Pomeroy, VRD, wartime RNVR escort captain and shipbuilder, died in Ottawa on April 17 aged 87. He was born on May 20, 1907.

ARTHUR POMEROY represented the best of the volunteer spirit that so enhanced Britain's maritime tradition during the Second World War. Joining the Ulster Division of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve as a probationary midshipman in 1927, he rose to the rank of commander RNVR and, highly unusually for a reservist, ended the war in command of a major warship, the light cruiser *HMS Delhi*.

While he was still her second-in-command, the ship played a conspicuous role in the Adriatic, and Pomeroy was responsible for a good deal of the delicate negotiations that took place, at local level, between the Royal Navy and Tito's partisans who were often not in the slighest bit grateful for the help that was being offered to them.

A member of an Anglo-Irish family, Arthur John Cinnamond Pomeroy was educated at Rugby School before becoming a pupil in naval architecture at Harland and Wolff's yard in Belfast, then the largest shipbuilding plant in the world. Transferring to the company's ship and engine-repair works at Liverpool, and then to ICI's alkali division at Northwich in Cheshire, Pomeroy kept up his sea training with enthusiasm. From the Mersey Division of the RNVR, he served in the battleship *Ramillies* and in destroyers before specialising in minesweeping trawlers.

At the outbreak of war he was appointed to the Patrol Service Depot at Lowestoft, finding this to be in a seaside music-hall called the Sparrow's Nest. A state of chaos prevailed; all the patrol service ratings, who were fishermen, had no barracks and were billeted out on landladies who continually telephoned the depot to complain about their drunken and obstreperous conduct.

But more serious concerns swiftly supervened. Pomeroy was appointed to an anti-submarine trawler group safeguarding ports and anchorages in the West Country where the fishermen, experts in gutting fish and splicing trawlerwire, rapidly learnt how to make war. Pomeroy recalled the difficulties in getting any of these reserve skippers to take orders from each other, irrespective of seniority.

As a lieutenant-commander and senior unit officer of the 23rd Anti-Submarine Trawler Group, he found himself in early 1940 escorting East Coast convoys. Later, while taking part in the ill-fated Norwegian campaign at Namsos and Narvik, his trawler, the *Melbourne*, was sunk under him by a bomb.

After a qualifying course, he was given command of the new Flower Class corvette *Gloxinia*. Having worked up at Tobermory, *Gloxinia* operated from Liverpool as an anti-submarine escort in the autumn of 1940, Pomeroy earning a mention in dispatches for seamanlike rescues from a torpedoed tanker and a passenger liner.

Ordered to the Mediterranean in 1941, where she was based at Alexandria, *Gloxinia* escorted convoys from Alexandria to Benghazi and, because she had been, rather unusually, fitted with a "Double L" towed sweep for triggering magnetic mines, also had the somewhat dubious privilege of sweeping port entrances ahead of approaching forces. Some mines tended to explode rather close to the sweeper: *Gloxinia* blew herself up off Benghazi, and again off Grand Harbour at Malta, on both occasions being saved only by her sturdy construction.

She was immured at Malta for eight months during the height of the siege. At that time Axis air power was in the ascendancy and ships such as corvettes, which were not fast enough to complete the passage to North Africa under cover of darkness, had no alternative but to stay where they were.

Pomeroy was again mentioned in dispatches during this period. He had an ingenious and inquiring mind and his knowledge of shipbuilding enabled him to make notable suggestions for improving the seakeeping design of later corvettes, for example by covering over the forward well-deck and raising the height of the bridge. His expertise with dockyards, his ebullient personality and a certain disregard of the formal procedures also enabled him to get things done for his ship where other captains could not.

His appointment to command a frigate in early 1942 was cancelled because of promotion to commander and he went instead to the headquarters running the North Atlantic battle against the U-boats, at Liverpool. As a consequence of a parliamentary question inquiring why RNVR commanders should not undertake front-line active service on the same basis as Territorial lieutenant-colonels, Pomeroy went back to sea in the spring of 1943 as second-in-command of the light cruiser *Delhi*, a First World War-vintage ship which had just been modernised and rearmed with 5-inch dual purpose guns as well as 40mm and 20mm batteries, to give her an anti-aircraft role.

Delhi took part in the landings in Sicily, Salerno, Anzio and the South of France providing gunfire support and anti-aircraft defence. Finally, in the winter of 1944, she assisted in the campaign to eject German forces from the Dalmatian coast of Yugoslavia. It was a difficult time. There was a threat posed by former Italian torpedo boats, midget submarines and human torpedoes, now operated by the Germans, who had at last woken up to the fact that in narrow crowded seas like the Adriatic resolute bodies of men in small craft could cause damage out of all proportion to their numbers. The Dalmatian coast was also beset with dense minefields.

To add to the problems, the British were by no means welcomed with open arms by Tito's partisans whom they were trying to help to overcome the common enemy. For a time *Delhi* found herself virtually blockaded in Split by the Yugoslav naval authorities and threatened by the shore-based artillery of the partisans. However, her presence there was welcomed by hundreds of starving, homeless children who hung about her berth where they were fed by the sailors in spite of partisan attempts to stop this.

Pomeroy was appointed by his captain to liaise with the Yugoslavs onshore and can claim much credit for the gradual easing of tensions during *Delhi*'s four-month stay in Split. The situation improved notably when, in a football match between *Delhi*'s ship's company and the partisans, the visitors allowed themselves to be soundly beaten by a scoreline of 12-1. In the circumstances it was thought somewhat risky for the sailors to win the return, though the margin of victory was tactfully kept down to a single goal.

Delhi remained at Split from December 1944 to March 1945. Eventually she was damaged by a remotely-controlled explosive motor-boat, which the Yugoslavs had, rather carelessly, allowed to penetrate the harbour defences. She then left for Malta where Pomeroy assumed command.

Pomeroy was awarded a third mention in dispatches at the end of the war and, having worked in Malta as a resettlement staff officer for the Mediterranean Fleet, was himself demobilised at the end of 1945. He was awarded the Volunteer Reserve Decoration: this was a somewhat mundane acknowledgement, perhaps, of five highly active years in the front line.

His second career led him to Canada where he was for many years a principal planning officer in the shipbuilding branch of the Department of Defence Production. Besides making useful contributions to the design of Royal Canadian Navy escort vessels, he was mainly employed in the scheduling of ship production and the manufacture and delivery of components for Canadian warships.

He first met his wife Rowena in 1942 when she was serving with the WRNS in Liverpool; they married in 1962. He is survived by her and by one of their two sons.

RAY McKINLEY



Ray McKinley, drummer, bandleader and vocalist, died in Largo, Florida, on May 7 aged 84. He was born in Fort Worth, Texas, on June 8, 1910.

ALTHOUGH most widely known as a vocalist with the Glenn Miller Orchestra and, later, as the leader of the orchestra after Miller's death, Ray McKinley was also highly regarded among his contemporaries both as a swinging Dixieland drummer and as a musical administrator and talent spotter.

It was McKinley who first recognised the potential of Shelle Manne, when the master West Coast drummer was still a teenager in New York in the 1930s, fixing him up with a job with a new band led by Bobby Byrne. And long before joining Miller, McKinley had a hit as a bandleader, singer and composer with a number entitled *Beat Me Daddy, Eight to the Bar*. At the time of its popularity the tune was blissfully unentangled with political or cultural incorrectness and McKinley cheerfully, if less successfully, followed it with sequels of similar banality — *Scrub Me Mama with a Boogie Beat, Bounce me Brother with a Solid Four* and *Fry Me Cookie with a Can of Lard*.

Raymond Frederick McKinley first played with local Texas bands, most significantly one led by Smith Ballew, which at various times in the early 1930s included Glenn Miller, Jimmy Dorsey, Joe Venuti, Bunny Berigan and Jimmy McPartland.

When Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey formed the Dorsey Brothers Orchestra in 1934 they recruited McKinley as their drummer and, a year later when the brothers split up, McKinley stayed with Jimmy. It was at this time that McKinley began to develop his talents as a vocalist. In 1939, however, he left Dorsey and formed a band jointly with Will Bradley, a trombone player.

The McKinley-Bradley band specialised in big band arrangements of boogie-woogie, which was the musical craze of the time, and within a year it was featured at the Paramount Theatre in New York, which had been the site of Benny Goodman's first great triumph. It was with the McKinley-Bradley band that McKinley had his *Beat Me Daddy, Eight to the Bar* hit. Yet in 1942 he and Bradley went their separate ways.

McKinley then formed a band of his own but, before it could get into its stride, McKinley was inducted into the military, becoming a member of the United States Army Air Force Orchestra led by Glenn Miller. He was Miller's first choice as drummer.

McKinley's experience as a bandleader proved useful in the administration of the USAAF ensemble which had a full complement of 68 musicians. He was effectively number two in administrative authority when the band arrived in Britain shortly after D-Day in June 1944.

The USAAF Orchestra played at the Queensberry Club and the Forces Club in Soho, performed for the general public at the London premiere of the Bing Crosby film *Going My Way*, and its BBC broadcasts included *Strings With Wings* every Saturday morning.

In addition to his role propelling the beat for the big band, McKinley was featured in one of the small groups from among its members, known as the Swing Shift, which also featured Mel Powell on piano, "Peanuts" Hucko on clarinet and Trigger Alpert on bass.

When Glenn Miller went missing while flying to France on December 15, 1944, McKinley took over the leadership of the USAAF Orchestra for its remaining eight months in Europe.

After the war he re-formed his own band which featured several distinguished soloists — including "Peanuts" Hucko and the trumpeter Pete Candoli — and the innovative musical arrangements of Eddie Sauter. However, the best days of the big band era were over and two years later McKinley was forced to disband the group.

In 1946 the Glenn Miller estate had reassembled the Glenn Miller Orchestra under the leadership of Tex Beneke, a prewar Miller tenor-saxophonist and vocalist, and in 1956, when Beneke gave up the job, McKinley took over. The orchestra used Miller's original musical scores and style and interest in it, from a new generation, was boosted by the success of the the film *The Glenn Miller Story* (1953) which had James Stewart in the title role.

McKinley and the orchestra toured the world until 1965, visiting Eastern bloc countries in 1957. He then handed the band over to the clarinettist Buddy de Franco. In 1985, however, Miller paid a return visit to Britain for television appearances with his old colleagues "Peanuts" Hucko and another ex-Miller musician, trumpeter Zeke Zarchy.

As a singer, Ray McKinley never made quite the impact of his Miller predecessor, Tex Beneke, but as a drummer he was a meticulous technician who drove his bands along with a swinging rhythm that brought the best out of his fellow musicians.

Ray McKinley is survived by his wife Gretchen Haveman and a daughter.

ADZA VINCENT

Adza Vincent, theatrical agent, died on May 5 aged 77. She was born on December 17, 1917.

ADZA VINCENT was one of those theatrical agents who, by keeping their operations intentionally small, often wield more influence within the business than many of the large, established agencies. Adza managed a select group of clients, some of them Hollywood stars who valued her personal touch when they were playing in the West End or passing through London for European engagements — Olivia de Havilland and Zero Mostel among them.

Working from her tiny house above a laundry in Marylebone, near Regent's Park, she ran a remarkably professional business and she usually got what she wanted for her clients, though she negotiated her deals with charm. She prided herself upon being able to spot new talent, and Michael Crawford was one actor whose early career was greatly facilitated by her efforts. Her friends included the actress Adrianne Allen — mother of Anna Massey — the director Anthony Asquith, the impresario Hugh "Binkie" Beaumont, Sir Laurence Olivier and Marlene Dietrich.

She also provided secretarial support to the playwright Christopher Fry. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s Adza would trek west to Fry's home in Little Venice every morning or stay with him in the country to type his scripts.

She first met him in 1951 when she was working as the administrator on the tour and the London production of his *A Sleep of Prisoners*, which starred Denholm Elliott and which had been commissioned for the Festival of Britain (this was only two years after Fry's *The Lady's Not For Burning* had scored such a triumphant hit at the Globe with Richard Burton). Then in 1953 Adza returned from Ireland where she had been inveigled into managing an hotel for her mother. She went to work for Fry full-time and assisted him on a series of new plays, some of them translations from French plays, some originals.

The stage was in her genes. She was the daughter of a major who had served in India, and an opera singer, Kitty Vincent, who had once sung at La Scala. She spent much of her childhood in the Newcastle area and was educated at Harrogate Ladies' College. At the age of 15 she received the Royal Humane Society Award for heroism when, on a houseboat holiday on the Thames, she had dived into the water to rescue a drowning man "diving and duck-diving repeatedly and often", as the citation read. As a Girl Guide she was also awarded the Silver Cross for Gallantry.



After school she enrolled at the Central School of Speech Training, then run by the redoubtable Elsie Fogerty. She played one of the Women of Canterbury in the first production of T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* in 1935.

Adza had an exceptional speaking voice and during the war she worked as an announcer for the BBC Overseas Service. In 1945 she took charge of broadcasting in Singapore. There followed her introduction to Fry, and in 1957 she launched her own agency, which she managed in tandem with her secretarial duties.

Retiring as Fry's assistant in 1970, she continued to run the agency until a few years ago, despite a stroke in 1980 which made mobility something of a problem. When speech became difficult she found she could communicate by singing what she had to say. She determined that this would not restrict her social life and she continued to arrive by taxi to watch friends' opening nights at theatres all over London, and to negotiate the almost perpendicular stairs at her home in Ivor Place.

She never married and lived alone, though she was kept company by a series of dogs which she walked in Regent's Park. She was a warm-hearted woman and her friends could rely on her to continue "diving and duck-diving" for anyone even slightly drowning.

PERSONAL

TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

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AUCTIONS

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LEGAL NOTICES

ABH ELECTRICAL (CONTRACTING) LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP AND LIQUIDATION)
Notice is given that a meeting of the creditors of the company will be held at Price Waterhouse, The Quay, 30 Channel Way, Ocean Village, Southampton, Hampshire on Friday 2 June 1995 at 3.00 pm to be followed at 3.30 pm by a general meeting of the members. The purpose of the meetings, which are called under the provisions of Section 105 of the Insolvency Act 1986, is to receive an account of the acts and dealings of the liquidator and the conduct of the liquidation during the year ended 1 March 1995.
No formal voting is anticipated at the meeting, but a creditor or shareholder wishing to vote at the meeting must complete and lodge with me the enclosed proxy form, unless the creditor is an individual attending the meeting personally or a company authorising a representative under the provisions of Section 246 of the Companies Act 1985.
A creditor who has not yet submitted a claim and who wishes to vote at the meeting whether in person, by proxy, or in some way, must do so before the meeting.
D J Blenkiron
Liquidator
11 May 1995.

LEGAL NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - THE COIF CHARITIES FIXED INTEREST AND DEPOSIT FUND
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 7th Floor, St. Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London W8LY 4QX quoting reference DCY/803610A/1-LAG. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - THE CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 7th Floor, St. Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London W8LY 4QX quoting reference DCY/803610A/1-LAG. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

M.A.K. ENGINEERING LIMITED (In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 46(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of the above named Companies will be held at the Offices of Messrs. Booth White, 98 New Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4QR, on Friday 26th May 1995 at 11.00a.m. for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the Report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The Meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a Creditors' Committee to exercise the functions specified on, by, or under the Act. Creditors are only entitled to vote if:-
(a) They have delivered to us at the address shown above, no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the Meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due to, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and
(b) There has been lodged with us any Proxy which the Creditor intends to use on his behalf.
Creditors may obtain a copy of the Report, free of charge, on application to the Administrative Receivers, at the address shown above.
Dated this 10th day of May 1995
Simon G. Paterson
JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER

In the matter of Bloom Signs Limited
and
In the matter of the Insolvency Act 1986
Notice is hereby given that Paul Francis Jeffery of KPMG, Aquila Court, 31 Fishpool Street, St Albans AL3 4RF was appointed Liquidator of the company with effect from 5 May 1995 following a meeting of the creditors held on 5 May 1995.
The creditors of the above-named company are required, on or before 30 June 1995, to send in their full forenames and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any), to the undersigned of KPMG, Aquila Court, 31 Fishpool Street, St Albans AL3 4RF, Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Date 9 May 1995
Paul Francis Jeffery
Liquidator

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the Personal Representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
SUESSMAN, KAETHE. COLOSSBROUGH NURSING HOME, 12 HORNSEY LANE, HIGHGATE, LONDON N6, died 3rd July 1994; particulars to PIPER SMITH & BASNAM (Ref: 5264.1.MS.SM) Solicitors 31 Warwick Square, London SW1V 2AF before 21st July 1995.

EAST END STREET PARTIES

RAIN A SPOILSPORT

The rain yesterday was unrimely for the afternoon and evening celebrations which in hundreds of East End streets had been planned and saved up for and dreamed about for weeks. Communal efforts of this type are especially al fresco affairs, and children in one Hoxton street, defying the elements, stuck to their buns although it was raining a fine drizzle, and, by speeding up their schedule, finished in time to dodge a heavy downpour.

Residents in some streets had taken the precaution to engage halls, in which they organized races for the children, with plenty of prizes, impromptu entertainment and dancing. Others telephoned to the London County Council authorities seeking permission to use schools. But if the stage had been erected in the street then the inhabitants insisted on using it.

As is usual in this part of the world, the children were particularly well looked after. One street in Stepney gave them each an enormous high tea, a mug with the Royal portrait and the name of the street printed on it, a book, "The Life of Our King and Queen" and rattles for babies under six months. Another had a fancy dress parade; there were conjuring, Punch and Judy, and marionette shows. Another street had dressed all the children for the party in red, white and blue. The children in another street acted *The Sleeping Beauty* before their enraptured parents.

ON THIS DAY

May 13 1937

"I was asked to cover the [Coronation] street parties," wrote Louis Heren in his autobiography. He was 18 years old — a messenger boy who had impressed a perceptive news editor. The youth became one of the paper's most distinguished foreign and war correspondents and finally deputy editor. Louis Heren died in January this year.

Despite the weather, the streets, with their lavish festoons, their innumerable flags and electric lights, looked remarkably cheerful, and every one was determined that, notwithstanding the rain, Coronation Night should be celebrated in a glow of fervour.

THE CROWD'S "WE WANT THE KING"

The King and Queen returned to Buckingham Palace in weather disappointingly different from the sunlit setting of their morning journey. A dull dripping sky was above, a forest of open umbrellas below. The guards of honour in front of the Palace and the lines of Grenadier Guards along the pavements had no such protection.

The Royal coach entered the Palace and the last of the troops marched away. The time had now come to withdraw the last barriers of police and soldiers and allow the people to converge on the Palace, as they desired. They called out, sometimes a few of them, sometimes great numbers at once, "We want the king!" The Palace balcony had been hung with crimson and gold drapery, and presently Household officers and servants came out and laid down a carpet. More and more people hurried to join their fellows, till the whole space before the railings was black with them.

The King, in crown and ermine robe, the train borne by his pages, was visible first. As he bowed in acknowledgement of the acclamation he looked serious and a little pale. The Queen, likewise wearing crown and robes, and attended by her company of train-bearers, joined him in a few moments. They stood together for a little while. Behind the adjoining window could be seen Queen Mary. When the little Princesses, Elizabeth and Margaret, both wearing their coronets, joined their parents the cheers swelled anew.

Then the group, at once dignified and charming, was completed by the arrival of Queen Mary.

NEWS

Major aims for 'people's policy'

■ John Major last night appealed to the country to help him to build a "people's policy" to win the next election.

Bowing to criticism that the Government has lost touch with its natural supporters, the Prime Minister announced that he and his Cabinet colleagues were to embark on a grand tour to consult Tory activists and the public about the next Conservative manifesto Page 1

RAF officer shot by robbers

■ A senior RAF officer was shot five times when he tried to disarm a gunman who had fired at a woman during a robbery. Wing Commander Peter Drissell, 39, was recovering in hospital after the attack in Vauxhall, southwest London Page 1

Sterling soars

Kenneth Clarke seemed increasingly likely to weather the crisis over interest-rate policy as sterling soared Page 1

Vicars' declaration

A Church of England diocese is to ask vicars, rectors and other clergy to sign a declaration stating that they have never abused children before they are accepted for training or new jobs Page 1

Cup climax

After nine months of scandal, sleaze and sweat, the FA Carling Premiership reaches its climax tomorrow Page 1

Freemasons inquiry

Freemasons face the prospect of a Nolan committee inquiry into their influence at the heart of Britain's Establishment Page 2

Policeman shot

A Scotland Yard marksman was accidentally shot in the chest by a fellow officer Page 3

Brothers' win

Mohammed Al Fayed, the chairman of Harrods, and his brother Ali, have been allowed to challenge a minister's refusal to grant them citizenship Page 5

Photographs taken

The South Korean crew of a cargo vessel that rammed a BP oil tanker in the English Channel killing nine people took photographs of British seamen as they fought for their lives Page 7

Explorers' fate

The Franklin explorers to the Arctic 150 years ago were forced into cannibalism Page 11

Kiev welcome

President Clinton received a rapturous welcome from thousands of Ukrainians in Kiev Page 13

Zaire warning

Britons were advised to stay away from Zaire, where an outbreak of the incurable Ebola disease has caused panic Page 17

Civil War submarine found on seabed

■ American underwater explorers have found a Civil War hulk that 131 years ago became the first submarine in history to sink another ship. The *Hunley* was found intact in 18ft of water, two and a half miles off Charleston, South Carolina Page 16

MICHAEL POWELL



Lord Montagu of Beaulieu with the 1906 Renault 20/30 HP limousine, the first car he bought for the National Motor Museum in 1953, which will be offered for sale at Christie's today. It is expected to fetch at least £35,000

OPINION

Teeming spires: As A levels loom for some pupils, those in the year below must contemplate applications to university Page 19

Capital question: The seizure of Palestinian land in east Jerusalem runs counter to the accord between Israel and the PLO Page 19

Now that the Lord Chief Justice has in layman's language ordered lawyers to cut the waffle, of course they will obey him meticulously — as to the law Page 19

THE PAPERS

Mr Clinton's advisers did all they could to talk down hopes for the Moscow summit. Even so, the meeting has to be seen as a wash-out

— The Washington Times

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Old Father Gummer declared this week that he intended to "do something" about the Thames in London. The time had come, he said, "to break new ground ... to realise the river's potential". Old Father Thames winked. Page 18

Julian Critchley: What sort of Tory party would survive loss on the scale of 1906? It would be hard to recognise Page 18

OBITUARIES

Commander Arthur Pomeroy, wartime RNVR escort captain and ship constructor; **Ray McKinley**, drummer and vocalist Page 21

LETTERS

Chancellor and Governor at odds Page 19

BUSINESS

Economy: Manufacturing output rose slightly in March but the underlying trend remained broadly flat, according to figures that appear to vindicate Kenneth Clarke's decision to leave interest rates unchanged Page 23

Trade: Michael Heseltine flew to China at the head of the biggest ever British trade mission Page 23

Banking: Four of the remaining bank shareholders in 3i, the venture capital firm, plan to sell a 20 per cent shareholding Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 7.6 points to 3310.3. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 83.4 to 84.7 after a rise from DM2.2205 to DM2.2700 and from $1.5705 to $1.5720 Page 26

SPORT

Football: By 5.45pm tomorrow either Manchester United or Blackburn will be champions Page 44

Cricket: Tony Wright and Dean Hodgson broke Gloucestershire's opening partnership record by putting on 362 Page 38

Yachting: Dennis Conner appears to have little chance of avoiding a 5-0 whitewash by New Zealand in the America's Cup Page 41

Golf: Peter O'Malley equalled the course record at St Mellion to lead the Benson and Hedges International by five strokes Page 39

CARS

Supercar status: The electronic brain behind the transport of tomorrow

SATURDAY TIMES

MAGAZINE



Diana Rigg: The Sixties sex symbol may have become a dame, but she has lost none of her appeal Page 8

Open book: Karl Popper's library has many clues to the workings of the philosopher's mind Page 17

Dream homes: Roderick Gradidge defends Sir Edwin Lutyens, who is derided by modern architects Page 24

John Mayall: The seminal English bluesman is still on the road Page 37

Stamp of approval: Stephen Bayley advises on mail etiquette Page 46

House style: Nilgin Yusuf enters the spiritual home of Boy George Page 50

WEEKEND



The house that always sells: What's hot and what's not in the property market, plus where to find that perfect house Pages 1, 3

Merge or die: Richard Morrison on the dilemma for two London orchestras Page 5

Rossini among the roses: Country-house operas and a guide to this summer's concerts Pages 8, 22

Duffed up: Controversy over the restoration of one of Scotland's best mansions, Duff House Page 5

Travel: On safari in Zimbabwe and Namibia; long weekends in Iceland and Rome; the art of Germany and Spain; plus Capri and Lanzarote Pages 18-24

VISION



Party animal: John Thaw in David Hare's *The Absence of War* Page 2

Wild life: Channel 4's celebration of the Western Page 4

Ready, Eddie? Eddie Izzard's first series, Missed Demeanours, on Radio 4 Page 20

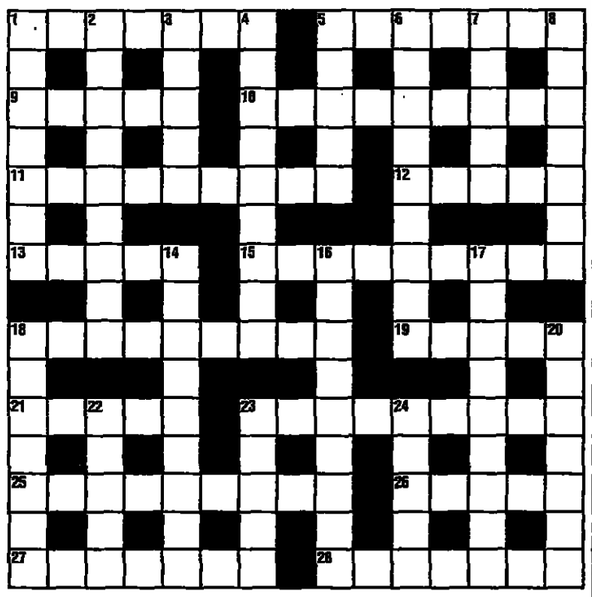
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,854

KNOCKANDO — PURE SINGLE MALT SCOTCH WHISKY

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .....

.....



ACROSS

1 Before church, good brother pipes music (7).
5 In rag, found a line of gossip (7).
9 Trouble if gun rusts (5).
10 Gather mark and enter for following term (9).
11 African creature unlikely to stay still in shade (9).
12 Old ship bearing a noble sort of air (5).
13 Refuse to sleep rough around the end of December (5).
15 Unusual cut in play is restored (9).
18 Fresh cut to the ear — one gets a nasty infection (9).
19 Roman priest held object of veneration (5).
21 Lie around black board (5)
23 Stomach is churning — he enjoys it? (9).
25 Wood work — schoolboy and girl take a hand (4,5).
26 A dishonest approach, but it had style (1-4).
27 Cloth for binding two animals (7).
28 Back in twenty-four hours from Africa (7).

DOWN

1 In school, brave but humourless (2-5).
2 In India, there's prohibition aplenty (9).
3 Nothing pleasant is held back (2,3).
4 Rugby player as a comic figure (9).
5 Clemens non Papa? (5)
6 Unnecessary weight above lid on food container (3-6).
7 Being prone to perjury (5)
8 Old royal holding container of eye-liner (7).
14 Fictional servant appears correctly in uniform with regiment (3,6).
16 To excel can start to seem wildly in fashion (9).
17 The spirit of old Geneva? (9)
18 Take trouble over baby's first vegetable (3-4).
20 Steely work involving cruelty (7).
22 Simple, or extract of herb, as I call it (5).
23 Note rises and falls (5).
24 Driving instructor? (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,848

H	A	V	E	R		F	I	G	L	E	A	V	E	S
I		E		E		R		R		M		A		W
N	O	R	M	A	L	I	S	E		B	A	N	J	O
D		S		L		N		E		A		D		R
S	H	O	W	I	N	G	O	N	E	S	H	A	N	D
I				S		E		S		L				
G	I	O	T	T	O		C	R	A	Y	F	I	S	H
H		P		C		Y				S		O		
T	H	E	S	P	I	A	N		C	O	M	M	O	N
		N		R		L		P		R		E		
P	R	I	V	A	T	E	P	R	O	P	E	R	T	Y
L		N		T		N		O		H		E		C
A	N	G	S	T		D	E	S	P	E	R	A	D	O
N		U		L		A		I		U		C		M
T	O	P	S	E	C	R	E	T		S	A	H	I	B

Solution to Puzzle No 19,853

E	S	C	A	P	A	D	E		A	P	L	O	M	B
N		O		R		I			R		U		I	
A	N	G	R	I	E	S	T		B	A	T	T	E	R
C		E		N		H		W		N		B		D
T	O	N	I	C		E	G	R	E	G	I	O	U	S
S		T		I		V		E				U		E
		A	P	R	E	T	T	Y	P	E	N	N	Y	
S		L		L		C		U		D		E		
T	H	E	R	E	A	L	T	H	I	N	G			
I		A		I		E		C		A		R		
C	O	N	C	E	R	N	E	D		H	E	D	G	E
K		T		C		G		N		B		R		G
S	H	I	E	L	D		V	E	R	O	N	I	C	A
U		M		A			S		W		F		R	
P	R	E	S	T	O		I	S	O	L	A	T	E	D

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *A Monje, Godalming, Surrey; J Shaddock, Sheffield; A Hall, Goring-by-Sea, West Sussex; J Caton, Blackburn, Lancashire; C Dolphin, Bromley, Kent.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute all other times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
5.13 am	8.42 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
4.22 am	7.08 pm

Full Moon Tomorrow

London 8.42 pm to 5.11 am
Bristol 8.52 pm to 5.21 am
Edinburgh 9.15 pm to 5.03 am
Manchester 8.59 pm to 5.11 am
Penzance 8.58 pm to 5.38 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
5.11 am	8.44 pm
Moon sets	Moon rises
4.58 am	8.27 pm

Full Moon Today

London 8.44 pm to 5.10 am
Bristol 8.53 pm to 4.20 am
Edinburgh 9.16 pm to 5.01 am
Manchester 9.01 pm to 5.19 am
Penzance 9.00 pm to 5.37 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	–	–	0.28	7.10
Aberdeen	11.55	4.17	–	–
Avonmouth	5.32	12.75	6.01	13.11
Belfast	9.20	3.42	9.51	3.34
Cardiff	5.28	11.46	5.59	11.70
Devonport	4.07	5.18	4.37	5.25
Dover	9.20	6.37	9.43	6.81
Dublin	10.05	4.02	10.23	4.05
Falmouth	3.27	5.00	3.52	5.01
Glasgow	11.18	4.44	–	–
Harwich	10.22	3.82	10.41	3.91
Holyhead	8.42	5.49	9.06	5.57
Hull	4.42	7.04	4.58	7.33
Ilfracombe	4.19	8.81	4.47	9.07
King's Lynn	4.48	6.30	5.05	6.64
Leith	0.49	5.28	1.12	5.50
Liverpool	9.41	9.25	10.06	9.43
Lowestoft	8.11	2.40	8.08	2.47
Margate	10.42	4.68	10.56	4.75
Milford Haven	4.31	6.71	4.58	6.86
Newquay	3.32	6.54	3.58	6.66
Oban	4.15	3.76	4.42	3.76
Penzance	3.04	5.20	3.28	5.29
Portland	5.11	1.93	5.47	2.05
Portsmouth	9.46	4.49	10.13	4.75
Shoreham	9.41	5.94	10.05	6.24
Southampton	9.13	4.33	9.40	4.61
Swansea	4.35	9.13	5.02	9.35
Tees	1.55	5.20	2.15	5.33
Wilton-on-Nze	10.17	4.21	10.35	4.20

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: highest day temp: Hove, East Sussex, and Hurn Airport, Dorset, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Minehead, Somerset, 0.24in; highest sunshine: Tiree, Hebrides, 11.0hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a dry start inland. Coastal showers will soon spread but some southern and central areas will have a mainly dry day. Showers along eastern and northeastern coasts could be wintry.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have showers, and these could be of snow over the highest ground for a time. During the evening, thicker cloud will move into the extreme northwest, with rain before midnight.

☐ **London, SE, Central S England, Midlands:** mainly dry and quite bright. Wind north or northwest light or moderate. Maximum temperature 11C (52F).

☐ **E Anglia, E, Central N, NE England, Borders:** showers, heavy at times, perhaps with hail or sleet. Wind mainly northerly moderate. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** showers and sunny periods. Mainly dry later. Wind north or northwest moderate. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** sunny periods and wintry showers. Dry but cloudy later. Wind north or northwest light to moderate. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland:** sunny periods and showers. Cloudy with rain later. Wind northwest moderate. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Outlook:** brighter tomorrow, and warmer by Monday with rain in the south.

ABOUT BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sf=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.3	0.04	9	48	h
Anglesey	3.4	-	10	50	b
Aspatria	8.2	-	10	50	b
Aviemore	2.3	0.03	7	45	h
Birmingham	0.2	-	10	50	c
Bognor R	4.3	-	13	55	c
Bournem'th	5.8	0.01	13	55	sh
Bristol	2.3	0.08	8	46	r
Buxton	0.3	-	7	45	du
Cardiff	2.0	0.02	8	46	r
Clacton	2.7	-	10	50	b
Colwyn Bay	1.6	-	9	48	c
Cromer	4.1	-	9	48	c
Doncaster	0.4	-	9	48	c
Eastbourne	2.6	-	13	55	c
Edinburgh	5.2	-	9	48	b
Eskdalemuir	5.2	-	8	46	b
Exmouth	1.4	-	11	52	du
Falmouth	X	0.02	12	54	r
Fishguard	-	0.21	7	45	r
Folkestone	3.3	-	13	55	c
Glasgow	6.2	-	11	52	s
Guernsey	0.4	0.02	12	54	r
Hastings	2.8	-	12	54	b
Hayling I.	3.8	-	12	54	c
Herne Bay	1.2	-	9	48	c
Hove	2.2	-	13	55	c
Hurstanton	4.1	0.01	9	48	b
Ilfracombe	-	-	10	50	du
Isle of Man	7.0	-	11	52	b
Jersey	-	0.08	12	54	r
Kinloss	5.3	0.01	7	45	sh
Leeds	0.9	-	9	48	c
Lerwick	7.5	0.10	6	43	h
Leuchars	5.2	0.05	9	48	sh
Liverpool	0.7	-	9	48	c

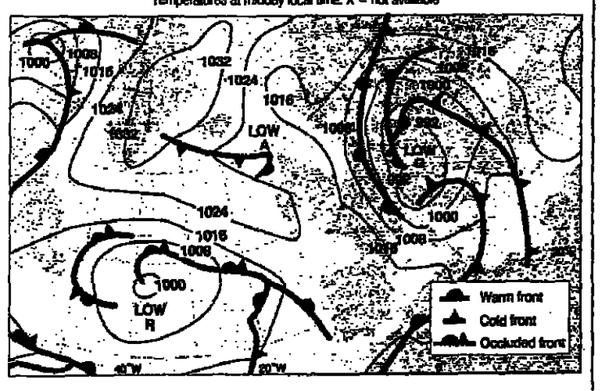
	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
London	0.2	-	11	52	c
Lowestoft	3.9	0.01	10	50	b
Manchester	0.8	-	9	48	c
Margate	2.2	-	11	52	c
Minehead	2.1	0.24	7	46	r
Morecambe	1.6	-	11	52	c
Newcastle	0.5	0.03	7	46	sh
Newquay	0.3	0.02	13	55	c
Norwich	2.9	-	10	50	c
Oxford	0.8	0.04	9	48	r
Penzance	0.5	-	12	54	c
Plymouth	1.9	0.02	11	52	r
Prestatyn	1.5	-	10	50	c
Ross-o-wye	2.5	0.22	8	46	r
Ryde	3.2	-	12	54	b
Salcombe	-	0.02	10	50	r
Sandown	3.4	-	12	54	c
Saunts Snd	1.6	-	9	48	du
Scarboro'	8.1	-	9	48	b
Scilly Isles	X	-	-	-	-
Shanklin	3.0	0.01	11	52	c
Shrewsbury	0.2	-	9	48	c
Sheerness	-	5	48	c	
Southend	X	0.01	13	55	b
Southport	0.6	-	10	50	c
Southsea	2.7	-	12	54	c
Stornoway	6.4	0.05	7	45	h
Swanage	5.6	-	12	54	d
Teignmouth	2.1	0.02	11	52	d
Tenby	-	0.13	7	45	d
Tiree	11.0	-	9	48	b
Torquay	1.2	0.09	10	50	r
Tynemouth	X	-	7	45	s
Ventnor	4.5	0.02	12	54	sh
Weymouth	3.3	-	13	55	c

These are Thursday's figures

ABROAD

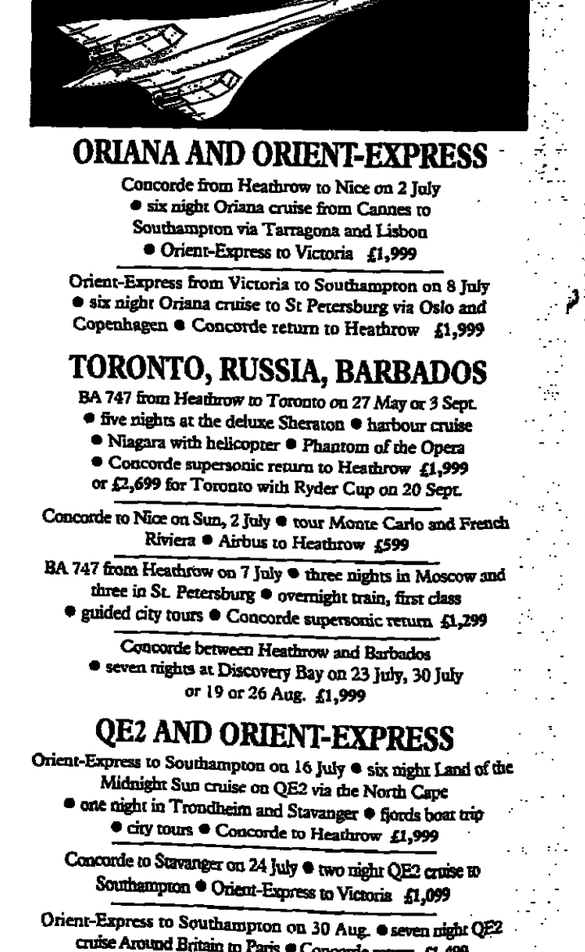
Ajaccio	23	68	t	C'phagn	11	52	t	Madrid	18	61	t	Rome	17	63	t
Akrotiri	23	73	s	Corfu	25	77	f	Majorca	18	64	f	Salzburg	18	64	c
Alex'dria	28	79	s	Dublin	7	45	r	Malaga	22	72	f	S F'isco	17	63	r
Algiers	22	72	s	Dubrovnik	21	70	r	Malta	26	79	f	Santiago	20	68	s
Amst'dam	11	52	t	Faro	23	73	t	Melb'rne	19	66	t	S Paulo	21	70	c
Athens	26	79	s	Florence	21	70	c	Mexico C	26	79	s	Seoul	24	75	s
Bahrain	31	88	c	Frankfurt	19	61	s	Miami	31	88	f	Sing'por	32	90	f
Bangkok	33	91	f	Funchal	22	72	s	Milan	15	59	r	St'kholm	8	46	f
Barbados	31	88	s	Geneva	15	59	f	Montreal	11	52	fg	Strasb'rg	18	64	s
Barcelona	20	68	f	Gibraltar	19	66	c	Moscow	11	52	s	Sydney	25	77	s
Beirut	21	70	s	Helsinki	3	37	sl	Munich	16	61	f	Tangier	18	64	c
Belgrade	26	77	s	Hong K	24	75	f	Nairobi	21	70	c	Tel Aviv	23	73	f
Berlin	12	54	f	Innsbruck	18	64	t	Naples	18	64	r	Tenerife	24	75	s
Bermuda	23	73	f	Istanbul	22	72	t	N Delhi	38	100	s	Tokyo	20	68	c
Biarritz	13	55	f	Jeddah	33	91	s	Nice	14	57	r	Toronto	15	59	c
Borde'x	15	59	s	Jo'burg	17	63	f	Oslo	9	48	f	Tunis	21	70	s
Brussels	13	55	f	Karachi	36	97	s	Paris	15	59	f	Valencia	24	75	s
Budapest	16	61	f	L Palmas	22	72	f	Peking	14	57	r	Vanc'ver	11	52	r
B Aires	20	68	s	Le Touet	10	50	f	Perth	18	64	s	Venice	17	63	c
Cairo	30	86	s	Lisbon	18	64	c	Prague	12	54	r	Vienna	14	57	c
Cape Tn	20	68	s	Locarno	13	55	r	Reykjavik	5	41	c	Warsaw	19	66	s
Chicago	17	63	c	L Angels	17	63	f	Rhodes	25	77	f	Wash'ton	23	73	f
Ch'church	17	63	–	Luxembg	16	61	c	Rio de J	24	75	f	Wel'ngton	16	59	f
Cologne	14	57	f	Luxor	33	91	s	Riyadh	37	99	s	Zurich	15	59	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: low A will fill and lose its identity. Low G will drift north and fill slightly as low R drifts very slowly west with little change in central pressure

MOORLAND



ORIANA AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Concorde from Heathrow to Nice on 2 July
● six night Oriana cruise from Cannes to Southampton via Tarragona and Lisbon
● Orient-Express to Victoria £1,999

Orient-Express from Victoria to Southampton on 8 July
● six night Oriana cruise to St Petersburg via Oslo and Copenhagen ● Concorde return to Heathrow £1,999

TORONTO, RUSSIA, BARBADOS

BA 747 from Heathrow to Toronto on 27 May or 3 Sept.
● five nights at the deluxe Sheraton ● harbour cruise ● Niagara with helicopter ● Phantom of the Opera ● Concorde supersonic return to Heathrow £1,999 or £2,699 for Toronto with Ryder Cup on 20 Sept.

Concorde to Nice on Sun, 2 July ● tour Monte Carlo and French Riviera ● Airbus to Heathrow £599

BA 747 from Heathrow on 7 July ● three nights in Moscow and three in St. Petersburg ● overnight train, first class ● guided city tours ● Concorde supersonic return £1,299

Concorde between Heathrow and Barbados ● seven nights at Discovery Bay on 23 July, 30 July or 19 or 26 Aug. £1,999

QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Orient-Express to Southampton on 16 July ● six night Land of the Midnight Sun cruise on QE2 via the North Cape ● one night in Trondheim and Stavanger ● fjords boat trip ● city tours ● Concorde to Heathrow £1,999

Concorde to Stavanger on 24 July ● two night QE2 cruise to Southampton ● Orient-Express to Victoria £1,099

Orient-Express to Southampton on 30 Aug. ● seven night QE2 cruise Around Britain to Paris ● Concorde return £1,499

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MELVYN MARCKUS 24

Our City Editor focuses on SBC Warburg

WORKING WEEK 25

Monument to oilman's work of a lifetime



SPORT 37-44

Torrance plays it again in quest for golf's rewards

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
Page 37

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — SATURDAY MAY 13 1995

Lloyd's to unveil £2bn settlement to names

BY SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London is on the brink of unveiling a £2 billion settlement offer to names — its second attempt to end the legal actions brought by its loss-making members.

The new revised offer outstrips the original £900 million offered to names in May 1993, which was overwhelmingly rejected on the grounds that it was inadequate and failed to cap names' losses. The £2 billion package is being presented to Lloyd's ruling council next Tuesday and if approved will be outlined to names at the society's annual meeting at the end of the month.

The offer comes after High Court victories by two of the largest names action groups — Gooda Walker Action Group and the Feltrim Names Association. Yesterday, the 3,065 Gooda Walker names heard they had won damages of £261.7 million relating to losses incurred in 1988, 1989, and 1990. A further substantial sum for interest — estimated at up to £80 million — and run-off costs, together with damages for losses still to feed through, are payable on top. These could push the sum up towards £400 million.The offer will still appeal to these action groups, however, as there is inadequate insurance cover available to meet all the claims made by the 30-plus action groups. While they rank ahead of other action groups, there is still sizeable doubt over the adequacy of cover. Lloyd's has been trying since last December to broker a deal between litigating names and the insurers of the Lloyd's agencies that are being sued for negligence. However, behind the scene talks have been in progress for much longer.

Peter Middleton, Lloyd's chief executive, who is spearheading the settlement initiative, is said to be confident of reaching the £2 billion figure. A large chunk is expected to be funded by the errors and omissions insurers, who contributed an estimated £400 million towards the last settlement offer. They are said to be under pressure to put up £800 million to the new offer. A further £100 million is likely to come from the members' agents.

However, in a marked difference to last time, part of the funding is to come from profits made by the market in the last couple of years. Lloyd's is proposing moving from a three-year accounting system to a one-year system at the end of the current calendar year. This involves closing the profitable 1993, 1994 and 1995 years of account at the end of this year, thereby allowing names to receive the benefits sooner.

Another factor is Equitas, the reinsurance company being set up by Lloyd's to take over responsibility for all policies outstanding up to the end of 1992. In return for offloading their liabilities to Equitas, names would have to pay a fee.

Lloyd's is expected to announce losses of £1.5 billion at its annual meeting on Tuesday, May 30.

Names claim, page 24

Slowdown in economy backs Clarke

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH manufacturing production fell in the first quarter of this year, the first time this has happened since the economic recovery began.

The figures gave weight to Kenneth Clarke's argument that the economy is slowing to a more sustainable rate and did not justify another rise in interest rates.

At the same time, sterling rallied strongly on the foreign exchanges to beat the level it was trading at just before Mr Clarke's meeting with Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, on May 5.

Developments on the foreign exchanges underscore the Chancellor's instinct that the pound's weakness was a function of international currency turbulence rather than worries about policy and could easily be reversed. He recently made clear he opposed raising rates to defend sterling.

Manufacturing output rose a weak 0.3 per cent in March. But taking the three months to March against the previous three months — a comparison the Central Statistical Office says is a more accurate picture of the overall trend, output was down 0.1 per cent.

The last time there was a fall in any quarter was between the first quarter of 1992 and the final one of 1991. This was before the recovery began in the second quarter of 1992.

The CSO said it now estimates manufacturing is currently growing at a rate of only 1.5 per cent a year. A comparison of the CSO's trend estimate in October last year, — 5.5 per cent, indicates how swift the deceleration of manufacturing activity has been.

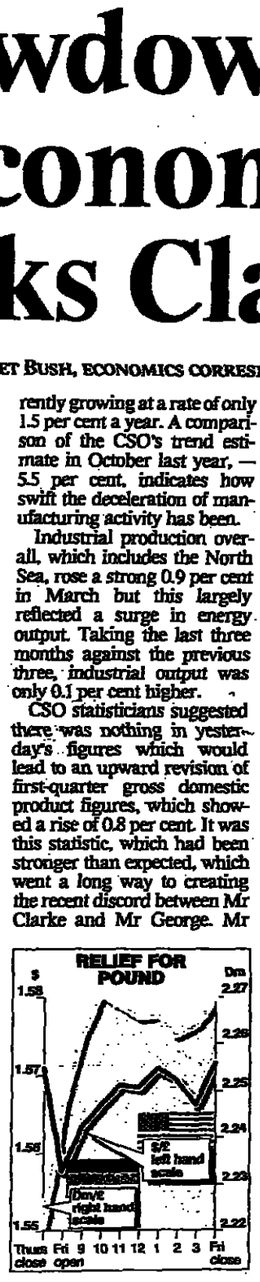
Industrial production overall, which includes the North Sea, rose a strong 0.9 per cent in March but this largely reflected a surge in energy output. Taking the last three months against the previous three, industrial output was only 0.1 per cent higher.

CSO statisticians suggested there was nothing in yesterday's figures which would lead to an upward revision of first-quarter gross domestic product figures, which showed a rise of 0.8 per cent. It was this statistic, which had been stronger than expected, which went a long way to creating the recent discord between Mr Clarke and Mr George. Mr Clarke said he was puzzled that the GDP figure was so strong, particularly given that manufacturing industry had been flat in the first quarter. He questioned apparent strength in services. However, the Bank on Thursday said it had no reason to doubt the strong GDP figures.

City economists are finding it difficult to square weak official data for manufacturing given buoyant readings from surveys such as the one published by the Confederation of British Industry. The CSO staunchly defended its figures yesterday, arguing that its is a much larger and more inclusive survey, taking in small firms as well as large and representing a broader array of industrial sectors.

Sterling yesterday acted virtually independently of the current debate on monetary policy, moving sharply higher as a function of a strong dollar and a weak mark. However, there was a certain element of intrinsic strength as dealers bet that Mr Clarke will have to concede an interest-rate rise early next month because of the furore over the last week.

The pound jumped to a high of DM2.2845 before settling back to about DM2.2695 at the close. Yesterday's peak was an impressive 11 pfennigs up on the record low as recently as Tuesday. The pound even managed a small gain against a rallying dollar which ended at $1.5820 to the pound.



ANDRÉ CAMARA



Frosty welcome: Mike Keegan of Mondex, the smart card company, welcomes Royal Bank of Canada's Thomas Kielty, middle, and Ronald Stanley of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, right, to the cashless society. They are planning to run a Mondex pilot scheme in Canada. Mondex is looking for US partners

Banks to reap £415m from 3i

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

FOUR of the remaining bank shareholders in 3i, the venture capital company, plan to sell a 20 per cent shareholding worth £415 million next month, once their agreement not to sell runs out. The news sent 3i's shares 9p lower to close last night at 346p.

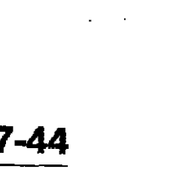
The Bank of England, Barclays, Lloyds and Midland currently own 32 per cent of 3i shares. The Bank and at least one of the others are expected to try to sell their entire holdings. Those that stay in will keep 12 per cent between them. NatWest, with 17.8 per cent, and Bank of Scotland, with 2.5 per cent, have said they do not intend to sell.

When 3i was floated on the stock market in July last year Royal Bank of Scotland sold its entire 7.3 per cent stake. NatWest, Bank of Scotland, Lloyds, with 9 per cent, Barclays, with 8.2 per cent, Midland, with 7.9 per cent, and the Bank, with 6.6 per cent, undertook not to sell any further shares until after publication of 3i's preliminary results.

The figures are due on June 8. Marketing of the secondary share sale, primarily to institutional investors, will start after that, with the sale taking place at the end of June. BZW is co-ordinating the sale.

Tempus, page 26

WEEKEND MONEY



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Anne Ashworth on the outlook for savers

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The question of interest rates



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The cost of long-term care

INVESTMENT 1

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Keeping pace with inflation



INVESTMENT 2



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Put your trust in government debt

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET PRICES

FT-SE 100	3310.3	(−7.8)
Yield	4.13%	
FT-SE A All share	1623.96	(−1.66)
Nikkei	16420.76	(−40.97)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4423.29	(+12.10)*
S&P Composite	525.73	(+1.36)*

US MONEY

Federal Funds	6%*	(6%)
Long Bond	107[28/32]*	(108[1/32])
Yield	6.99%*	(6.96%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6[3/4]%	(6[3/4]%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	105[28/32]	(105[30/32])

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5710*	(1.5630)
London:		
$	1.5715	(1.5571)
DM	2.2713	(2.2228)
FFr	7.9440	(7.8140)
SFr	1.8935	(1.8547)
Yen	136.84	(133.40)
£ Index	84.7	(83.4)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4458*	(1.4330)
FFr	5.0545*	(5.0310)
SFr	1.2050*	(1.1945)
Yen	86.98*	(85.75)
$ Index	89.7	(88.7)

Tokyo close Yen 86.34

WORLD SPOT PRICES

Brent 15-day (Jul)	$17.75	($17.80)

GOLD

London close	$383.45 ($384.15)

* denotes midday trading price

High Court rejects complaints by IFA

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

A GROUP of independent financial advisers has lost its High Court bid to stop the Securities and Investments Board review of the mis-selling of personal pensions.

The action was brought by the IFA Association, hoping to prove SIB proposals on reviewing personal pensions were unlawful and it was going outside its authority.

Earlier this year, the SIB issued guidelines on how financial advisers and insurance companies should compensate policyholders mis-sold personal pensions. IFAs could by liable for up to a quarter of £2 billion in claims.

Although the main point of IFA's action was dismissed by the High Court, it managed to get clarification that professional indemnity cover should not be put in jeopardy by the method claims were handled.

The judgment said: "IFAs are not required to take any step which will invalidate their insurance cover without their insurer's consent." PI insurers feared the method of contacting possible compensation claimants would be an invitation for them to sue. This would invalidate cover and IFAs could be forced to the wall because they would have to pick up the bill.

Redress closer, page 27

SBC plans shake-up of Warburg banking

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

SWISS Bank Corporation plans to reorganise Warburg's investment banking businesses if its £860 million acquisition goes ahead as planned in July.

Marcel Ospel, the chief executive designate of SBC Warburg, said yesterday that he had given himself a year to integrate the businesses. After that, he planned to continue Warburg's ambitions of building a world-leading investment bank, capable of taking on the mighty US players in their own market, he said.

He said that while the banks waited for shareholder and regulatory approval "we work on integration plans. I want to be ready with the organisational structure of the entire operation by the time that this thing can be consummated".

In a private talk with Warburg staff on Thursday, Mr Ospel said SBC would push Warburg's cost rationalisation efforts further. The newly merged business would also continue the restructuring of SBC's global investment banking operations and capabilities and "take all opportunities to create the most cost-effective operating platform for the future".

Yesterday, he said SBC was buying the business to expand it, not to shrink it.

Melvyn Marckus, page 24

Jumbo China mission takes off

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

MICHAEL HESELTINE, President of the Board of Trade, flew to China last night at the head of the biggest ever British trade mission which needed a leased jumbo jet to cope with the numbers.

The 150 businessmen and officials aboard, plus others joining the group from Hong Kong, are expected to sign well in excess of $800 million in new contracts during the week-long visit.

Companies represented range from Guinness and Cable and Wireless to British Gas and Rolls-Royce, as well as smaller manufacturing and service firms. The mission will use the jumbo as a flying headquarters.

Mr Heseltine, the first British cabinet minister to go to China in two years, will focus on helping firms do business, rather than wider political issues. His officials said, however, that he would be open to discussion of trade policy issues and export credit guarantees, if China wanted.

Starting in Peking, where he is scheduled to meet Wu Yi, the Chinese Foreign Trade Minister, Mr Heseltine and his delegation will travel on to Shanghai and Canton. The main day for signing contracts will be Tuesday.

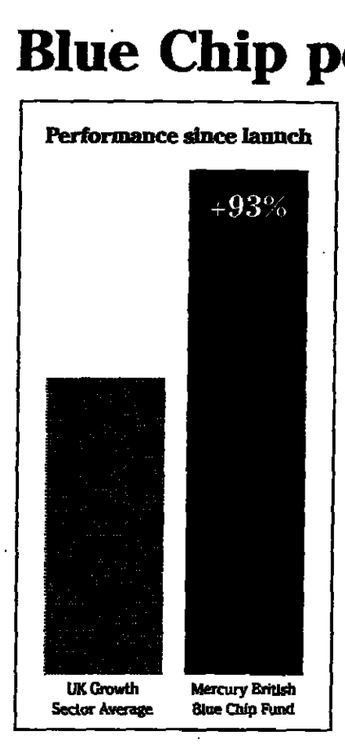
The Government is keen to help exporters to reduce the almost £800 million deficit Britain last year ran with China. Although Britain has almost doubled its exports to China in the past two years, they only amounted to about half of imports from China.

Among the major deals expected are an optic fibre cable contract for GPT, the GEC subsidiary, and a new joint venture with Bass, the brewing group.

In spite of the political wrangling over the future of Hong Kong, which returns to China in 1997, Britain remains the biggest European investor in fast-growing China, the fourth largest supplier from the European Union and second biggest EU customer.

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SBC Warburg: the gospel according to Ospel



MELVYN MARCKUS

And so it came to pass that the House that Sir Siegmund Warburg founded was sold, barring what the cautious tend to describe as "unforeseen circumstances", to the Swiss Bank Corporation for £860 million.

Such a sum represents Warburgs's investment banking franchise and excludes its 75 per cent shareholding in Mercury Asset Management which, as of last Wednesday, was worth more than £1.3 billion, valuing the whole of Warburgs at around £2.2 billion. By the end of the week, as MAM's share price retreated, Warburgs's stake was worth somewhat less and aspects of the unforeseen appeared all the more unforeseeable.

Nightmare No 1 for Sir David Scholey, the soon-to-be chairman of SBC Warburg, was for the SBC talks to degenerate into a repeat performance of the Morgan Stanley *tête-à-tête*. As I stressed last week, Scholey would hardly have announced discussions unless he had been convinced that SBC was hot to trot. Scholey, Lord Cairns, Warburgs's former chief executive, and Georges Blum, SBC's chief executive, talked co-operation two years ago. This time round fate and the ravishes of financial markets had dealt Blum a markedly better hand.

Scholey, who presumably prefers not to dwell on the exit price Warburgs might have commanded in 1993, likened the amalgam to "the clunk of a Rolls-Royce door". The underlying message is that Warburgs's expertise in corporate finance and equity broking should fit snugly with SBC's strengths in derivatives, bonds and foreign exchange transactions. Scholey also let it be known that he did not expect anyone to "interfere or impose themselves" on the bid. Nightmare No 2 for Scholey is that an unwelcome counter-bidder just might serve to bring on Nightmare No 1. In the event, Warburgs's southerly heading share price — with the MAM tail wagging the dog — suggests that Scholey's expectations have been noted. It is no secret that interest from across the pond has been shown by Merrill Lynch and Smith Barney. Merrill Lynch's interest flickered late last year, more or less coinciding with the Morgan Stanley saga. Earlier this month, Robert Greenhill, head of Smith Barney, the US brokerage house, along with Sandy Weill, chairman of Travelers Group, the parent company, appeared in London. Their arrival just happened to coincide with a tale, courtesy of the Bloomberg wire service, that Smith Barney was holding takeover talks with Warburgs. Far from talking, Scholey abruptly cancelled a long-standing dinner engagement with the duo. In an attempt to beef-up Smith Barney's investment banking operations, Weill poached a 22-strong contingent of bankers from Morgan Stanley in 1993, spearheaded by Greenhill. In-fighting between Smith Barney's veterans and Greenhill's new guns was bloody and, for at least two dozen of the former, terminal. Greenhill's designs on Warburgs, such as they were, surfaced shortly after his abortive attempt to prize Barings Securities out of Barings.

SBC and Warburgs clearly face a culture clash but the inhabitants of 1 Finsbury Avenue can take comfort from the fact that the prospect of a gun fight at the Smith Barney corral got no further than Bloomberg's wire service.

Thursday heralded bonus details, a not insignificant detail being the revelation that payments would be delayed until well into June: a ploy designed to discourage hasty exits. A little after 5pm that evening, in a speech beamed to Warburgs's global offices, Marcel Ospel, head of SBC's international and finance division, addressed this and other matters. Introducing himself as a "boring Swiss banker" he declared: "You all want to know what is going to happen next, and no doubt are wondering whether you will be better off staying with SBC Warburg or responding to the pressing invitations of one of our competitors. We really want you to stay and we need you to stay to build a new kind of business with us. This evening I will begin to explain what type of business that will be."

Ospel duly explained such matters and referred to the creation of a "pre-eminent European-based investment bank", while acknowledging the need to ultimately emerge as one of the "top players in the US domestic market". In his words: "Our strategic posture is to build and invest in a new bank for new times. This is also the history of SG Warburg, of course, and we hope and expect that your appetite for innovation is as keen as it ever was." With an eye on the sort of assets that might walk after the eventual receipt of a bonus payment he added: "If all goes well in the coming weeks, we may have completed an acquisition in a technical sense but we will only succeed if you and your colleagues really want to stay and to build our new bank."

More of the gospel from Ospel:

■ "We are in business to serve clients, reward our own people and also create value for our shareholders. We aim, in the integration, to create a focused and effective institution whose earning power is greater than that of either of our present organisations by themselves."

■ "We both have clients. Our business is serving them not gazing at our own navels as we rearrange our activities. Hence, we aim to have the full integration completed within 12 months."

He concluded: "All of us at SBC are excited about our future together with you, and not a little apprehensive about getting things to work well from the first. We look forward to co-operating with all of you in the design of the integration plan and then in the incredibly hard work of the next year. And we look forward to celebrating our joint success a year from now."

Not bad, for a boring Swiss banker. Defections, as Scholey and Blum know, are inevitable, but action is under way to minimise the fall out in respect of employees and clients.

As MAM fell 32p to 824p, Warburgs's share price retreated 22p to 772p. Realisation has dawned that a takeover bid for MAM is not necessarily imminent from the NatWest or elsewhere. But that is not to say that, after Warburgs's distribution of its MAM stake, there will not be fresh developments. Warburgs is a done deal, MAM a deal yet to be done.

Ibstock to buy Tarmac Brick for £65m

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

IBSTOCK, the building materials group, has built a platform to become Britain's second-largest brickmaker after unveiling a long-awaited £65.4 million acquisition of Tarmac's clay brick and paving stone business.

Ibstock sees the purchase of Tarmac Brick, Britain's fourth-largest brickmaker with an 8 per cent share, as an important step in the continuing consolidation of the UK brick industry and the expansion of its own business. The deal will boost Ibstock's market share from 11 to 19 per cent.

The increase in market share will lift Ibstock into second place in the UK brick market, behind Hanson, with about 30 per cent share, but slightly ahead of Redland, with about 17 per cent.

Britain's top three players will carve up some two-thirds of the brick market, which is widely expected to result in consolidation, viewed by analysts as positive for the industry as a whole as it may allow useful price rises as market positions are leveraged and should offset the downside when hard times return.

Ibstock is part-funding the deal through a £20 million placing and open offer, at 75p a share. The balance will come from bank borrowings, which will see debt rise to about £90 million, leaving Ibstock about 40 per cent geared. An additional payment of about £3 million is likely on completion.

The proposed acquisition is conditional on shareholder approval and OFT clearance.

The businesses being bought consist of ten operations spread from Plymouth to the North East. They employ 763 people, sold 270 million bricks last year, made operating profits of £1.6 million in 1994, on turnover of £42 million, and had a net book value of £82 million.

Ibstock has been concentrating on its brick operations after recently increasing its capacity with two acquisitions in Scotland. Its brick-making capacity was raised by 50 million bricks to 400 million last year. The Tarmac deal will increase it to about 670 million a year.

Ian Maclellan, Ibstock's managing director, said the deal was important in the continuing consolidation of the UK brick industry, though market conditions remained fiercely competitive.

Ibstock is also seeking buyers for its 56.3 per cent stake in Companhia de Celulose do Caima, the Portuguese forestry and pulp group. The stake estimated to be worth about £45 million.

Tarmac Brick's spending plans will be maintained, including those relating to the Dorket Head brick production facility in Nottingham and the expansion of blue brick production at Lodge Lane, Cannock.

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PETER TRIEVNOR



Brendan McCann hopes to offset the subsequent decline in cable contracts through civil work

Sharp rise in profits at Utility

BY ERIC REGULY

UTILITY Cable, a civil engineering company whose main business is installing ducts for cable operators, yesterday reported a sharp rise in profits and its first interim dividend as the cable industry entered its peak expansion phase.

Utility reported a pre-tax profit of £2.2 million for the half-year to the end of February, up 89 per cent from the period in the previous year. Earnings per share were 1.06p, against 0.62p, while turnover rose 86 per cent to £38.1 million.

Brendan McCann, chief executive, said: "The growth obviously reflects the growth in construction in the cable market."

He said that he expected duct-laying work to continue at high levels for the next three years and hoped to offset the subsequent decline in cable contracts in Europe through civil work in gas, water and sewerage industries.

An interim dividend of 0.25p per share will be paid on June 30. Mr McCann said that the final dividend would probably be 0.75p.

Rail chief delivers disruption warning

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITISH Rail said yesterday that the Government's radical changes to the railway system would disrupt the network for a significant time to come.

BR's strong warning about the impact of the Government's rail privatisation programme was coupled with a clear statement that rail operators are likely to concentrate on specialist niche markets rather than trying to service the general public.

John Welsby, British Rail's chairman, said yesterday that BR's performance had fallen back this year — partly because of the signal workers' strikes with Railtrack, which, he said, had severely damaged BR's business and partly because of the effect of adapting to the different rail regime under the Government's privatisation proposals.

Addressing the annual conference of the British Chambers of Commerce in Aberdeen, he said: "Such radical and fundamental changes in relationships within an industry are bound to involve a significant period of adjustment before you can expect everything to be working smoothly."

He admitted that rail was "not a serious option" for most journeys, but said that it had a key role in defined markets — commuting in major urban areas, especially London and Glasgow, fast journeys of under four hours between city centres, and bulk commodity and long-distance freight transport.

Rail, he said, had every incentive to concentrate on those markets, with rural and cross-country services being provided only if public authorities recognised the extra cost involved and were prepared to subsidise it. "The markets for rail are now specialist not generalist ones."

Sir Colin Marshall, chairman of British Airways, said that rejecting proposals to build a new terminal at London's Heathrow airport could cost Britain more than £2 billion a year.

Speaking to the conference in advance of the start next week of a public inquiry into proposals for a fifth terminal, Sir Colin said the prospective loss if it were not built was intolerable.

Tourism could lose up to £1.2 billion and the cost of air travel increase by £1 billion, he said. BA evidence to the inquiry would show that without the terminal existing UK-based businesses would face increased costs because of higher fares and longer journey times.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Kalon merger with Euridep to go ahead

KALON GROUP'S proposed merger with Euridep, the paint subsidiary of Total, is to go ahead, forming a major London-listed paint group valued at approximately £530 million, the companies announced yesterday. Lord Wakeham will become non-executive chairman. Kalon will acquire Euridep in exchange for 220 million new Kalon shares to be issued at 150p and valuing the existing Euridep business at £330 million.

Total will make a partial cash offer to acquire up to one-third of the existing Kalon shares at 140p each, subject to completion of the merger. As a result, Total could own up to 65 per cent of the enlarged Kalon. The Takeover Panel has agreed that Total will not be required to make a general offer for the outstanding shares. Kalon proposes to pay a special dividend of 10p a share on July 28. Dealings in Kalon shares, currently suspended, will resume on June 14. The Kalon board envisages annual savings of £10 million. In 1994 Euridep earned operating profits of FFr244 million (about £28.7 million).

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Cluff to allot new shares

CLUFF RESOURCES, the gold mining company headed by Algy Cluff and which is devoted to Africa, plans to allot 3.63 million new shares, or 5 per cent, to Echo Bay Mines, the Canadian group, at 60p a share. The £2.2 million proceeds will be deployed on further exploration work on Cluff Resources' promising Geita licence in Tanzania — site of one of the oldest gold mines in East Africa, and from where Cluff Resources has already reported encouraging drill results.

Tokyo 'to retaliate'

JAPAN, under threat of punitive trade sanctions from the Clinton Administration, is considering counter-sanctions outside the scope of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), senior officials said yesterday. Masahiko Komura, head of Japan's economic planning agency, said America's planned strategy of unilateral sanctions and raising the issue with the trade watchdog showed inconsistency. The Japanese Government on Thursday said it would file a formal complaint against America once the US sanctions list was published.

Gradus set for market

EMPLOYEES and existing shareholders in Gradus Group, the Cheshire maker of floor accessories, lighting systems and carpets, are set to reap rewards when it comes to the market at the start of next month. The company expects to raise about £8.5 million through an institutional placing and will be capitalised at between £28 million and £30 million. Ken Symonds, joint-chairman and co-founder of Gradus, will become a paper millionaire many times over. Employees who have been with Gradus for at least two years will receive shares.

SFA closes City firm

FIRST European Investment Corporation, a City futures and options specialist, was ordered to cease trading yesterday after the discovery by the Securities and Futures Authority of a "significant" shortfall in its financial resources. The firm was given two weeks in which to meet its capital adequacy requirements. It failed to do so. The SFA said the potential was there for clients to have lost money. The firm had about a dozen SFA registered employees. A spokesman declined to comment.

Baring inquiry appeal

AN ACTION group is appealing for funds to finance an investigation into the issue of Barings bearer notes in 1994. The Barings 9¼ per cent Perpetual Noteholders Action Group, claiming to represent more than 50 per cent of the £100 million notes outstanding, has appointed Jonathan Stone as chairman of a steering committee to lead the investigations. He is writing to noteholders to call for cash subscriptions, which have been set at 0.25 per cent of nominal value.

Fininvest discloses TV talks

BY ERIC REGULY

FININVEST, the main investment company of Silvio Berlusconi, the former Italian Prime Minister, said yesterday it had received an offer from The News Corporation for its three television stations.

Fininvest, confirming a report in an Italian financial news daily, said it was "evaluating" the offer for Canale 5, Rete Quattro and Italia Uno, the stations that form the backbone of Signor Berlusconi's media empire, one of the largest in Europe.

News Corp, the ultimate owner of *The Times*, would not comment on the report, although it is understood that there may have been talks. Nothing has been finalised and rumours of an imminent deal were highly exaggerated. One senior official said that he was not aware that a bid had been launched.

The newspaper report said News Corp's offer was worth about $2.8 billion.

Signor Berlusconi, who left office in December, has said he is willing to sell some of his media interests. His political opponents have accused him of using his TV stations to promote his own political fortunes.

The price of the stations will depend in part on the outcome of a June 11 referendum, which will ask Italians whether private companies should be limited to operating only one national TV channel. If the one-owner, one-channel option wins, Signor Berlusconi would be forced to sell two of his three stations, potentially reducing their market value.

Another referendum, to be held the same day, would ban commercials during the showing of TV movies. If it receives a "yes" vote, advertising revenue could fall drastically. Signor Bersluconi's opponents fear that Fininvest's TV stations will bombard voters with anti-referendum publicity.

Clearance for BA and Qantas pact

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

BRITISH AIRWAYS and Qantas, the Australian airline in which BA holds a 25 per cent stake, yesterday won approval to agree their prices on the "kangaroo route" between Britain and Australia after a dramatic about-turn by the Australian Trade Practices Commission.

The two airlines will be allowed to co-ordinate all aspects of their services — including pricing, scheduling, capacity, and sales and marketing activities — on the condition that they do not raise the real price of their economy excursion fares between Britain and Australia for the next three years. It is estimated that this will save the them about A$90 million (£43 million) a year.

The Trade Practices Commission rejected the proposals in November as anti-competitive. After a submission from the Australian Government and new pricing information from the airlines, Professor Allan Fels, TPC chairman, said he had decided that the detriment to competition was less than he had originally concluded.

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Sarah Bagnall on a court win and a writ for £1bn damages

Names claim Lloyd's broke EU rules



Deeny: "great news"

MORE than 2,000 names yesterday issued a writ against Lloyd's of London claiming damages estimated at £1 billion while, separately, thousands more names celebrated a Court of Appeal victory giving them first call on the limited funds available to meet legal awards.

The Writs Response Group, which represents the former group of litigants, is claiming damages on the grounds that Lloyd's is in breach of EU competition laws. The group argues that Lloyd's central fund, reinsurance provisions and the annual process of closing syndicate accounts by reinsurance are competition distorting. This allegation is due to go to full trial in October and, if successful, then the claim for damages will be dealt with in a separate action. If the names win both cases then thousands of names will be able to claim damages and have certain debts to the society cancelled.

Tony Wilson, chairman of the Writs Response Group's legal committee, said: "All our members who are plaintiffs on this writ are seeking to recover from Lloyd's the losses they have suffered from the 1986 year of account onwards as a result of Lloyd's competition distorting arrangements."

Lloyd's dismissed the writ, saying they were confident that the name' action would fail. Last year, Lord Justice Steyn, a Court of Appeal judge, said his initial view was that the EU competition distorting argument would fail.

In a separate move, the Court of Appeal yesterday ruled that funds available to meet names' successful court actions should be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis which means that names on the Gooda Walker Action Group have first call on the limited pot of errors and omissions insurance. Michael Deeny, chairman of the action group, said: "This is great news for all Lloyd's names."

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.22	2.05
Austria Sch	16.80	15.30
Belgium Fr	49.19	44.89
Canada $	2.211	2.051
Cyprus CypE	0.750	0.695
Denmark Kr	9.36	8.58
Finland Mkk	7.40	6.75
France Fr	8.33	7.68
Germany Dm	2.40	2.18
Greece Dr	378.00	353.00
Hong Kong $	12.69	11.69
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel	5.2123	4.4623
Italy Lira	2695.00	2540.00
Japan Yen	148.50	132.50
Malta	0.597	0.542
Netherlds Gld	2.688	2.438
Norway Kr	10.63	9.83
Portugal Esc	246.50	228.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.27
Spain Pta	200.50	187.50
Sweden Kr	12.07	11.27
Switzerland Fr	2.00	1.82
Turkey Lira	refer	69832.0
USA $	1.655	1.525

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A WORKING WEEK FOR: MIKE STEERE

One man's monument to a successful career

Carl Mortished accompanied the manager of Shell's huge Troll gas project in the North Sea as he realised his greatest achievement



Having tamed the Troll, Mike Steere intends to embark on a new, much smaller project, buying some land and building a house in Felixstowe

MOST people secretly wish to build a monument, something that will remain to prompt admiration, perhaps provoke criticism and, occasionally, even amazement. Whether a book, a successful business, or the Taj Mahal, it is a universal craving, but one that few individuals manage to satisfy fully.

This week, Mike Steere, manager of Shell's Troll gas project, watched as his greatest achievement, the huge Troll production platform was towed with precision through a Norwegian fjord and into the North Sea.

Few would describe the Troll platform as beautiful, but words such as magnificent and stupendous tumbled easily off the tongue as a ferry edged him closer to the four-legged structure that towered over the fjord like an intergalactic beast from a Steven Spielberg film. At 472 metres, it is the tallest concrete structure in the world.

The project boasts several other superlatives. It is the largest structure to be moved on earth and it will operate in the deepest water in Europe on the Continent's largest gas field. It has been built to withstand five million waves a year for the next half century. It can be operated by remote control from shore, significantly reducing the number of people required to work on the platform, thus reducing the frequency of hazardous helicopter journeys. Automation has also abolished the mud-soaked roustabout; three drilling rig operators will sit in the comfort of a cabin, pushing buttons on a high-tech console. But for the platform's creator, this week had more than the usual significance of a job well done. Mr Steere, 57, a practical, no-nonsense man and an engineer by training, retires next year after 40 years with Shell, the Anglo-Dutch oil group.

> "I feel it is mine. It does mark the end of my Shell career"

In the middle of this week's celebrations, he admitted to having more than a professional regard for the one million-tonne platform for the Troll field, so named because maps of the gas field reveal the shape of the mythical forest-dwelling Norwegian ogre.

"I have a lot of emotion in this project. I feel it is mine and I do get offended if people criticise it. It does mark the end of my Shell career."

His career began after a childhood spent moving around the world. He continued to travel with Shell. With his wife, he has followed Shell projects from Trinidad to New Zealand, Cyprus (during the Turkish invasion) and Venezuela. "It helped that we did not have children although my wife and I regret that we didn't," he says.

But his job is not over yet and he admits to feeling tense. The platform has still to be towed more than 170 nautical miles to its operating site, a journey that will take four or five days at speeds of little more than 1.5 knots. It will then need to be positioned to an accuracy within 50 metres and submerged in more than 300 metres. Its base will be sunk into the soft sea bed and gas production will begin in April next year, with Statoil, Norway's state-owned oil company, as the operator.

Pipelines will link the platform to a massive processing plant onshore at Kollsnes, where huge compressors will send the gas down pipelines across the North Sea to The Netherlands and Germany.

The towing operation reached a critical phase on Thursday. Two-thirds of the structure remain under water during towing and as the platform approached the mouth of the fjord, the clearance under the platform was reduced to only ten metres of water. Ten tugboats, eight in front and two behind, acting as rudders, kept the Troll within a narrow channel only twice the width of the platform itself.

Mr Steere's job is all about logisitics. Schedules agreed almost five years ago left a window from May 2 to May 10 for the tow-out. He described the last week as tense, an on-again, off-again affair as a last-minute hitch threatened to push the project from its carefully planned schedule.

Two concrete plugs could not be removed from the base of the structure and had to be drilled out at the last minute. Tension increased at the beginning of the week as Mr Steere worried that the fine weather needed to navigate the fjord would break before the plugs could be removed. But on the appointed day, the Troll cast a spell on the notorious Norwegian weather, which delivered sunshine and a light breeze. But the last-minute hitch pales in significance compared with the crisis that gripped the project just over two years ago. Within Shell, Mr Steere has a reputation for bluntness, a man who is likely to send away those riddled with worry and indecision with a flea in their ear. "Don't bring me problems, bring me solutions" is a phrase he likes to use.

However, in November 1992, Frank Chapman, the man in charge of construction, had no choice but to bring his boss a problem. The concrete gravity base of the structure is designed to withstand the battering of five million waves a year and 100 mile-an-hour winds during the 50-year expected life of the Troll gas field.

It must be designed to resist the impact of "100-year waves", those so strong that they can move the top of the platform by as much as a yard. According to Mr Chapman, they feel like an air journey during severe turbulence.

Platform staff are given simulations to prepare them for the shock when they go offshore. But with the Troll platform, project engineers found themselves with a previously unknown problem. Tests demonstrated that the "ringing" effect of the vibrating concrete, combined with the battering of the waves, required a complete design rethink.

Faced with the news, and the problem of the platform already being one-fifth built, Shell's project director was faced with a potential political crisis as well as a technical dilemma. He had to decide whether or not to inform the partners in the construction, including Statoil, which has a 75 per cent interest in the £3 billion venture.

To have told them would have involved an endless round of meetings, papers and delays; the alternative was to plough on and be confident that his team could come up with a solution.

"It took a year to 18 months to convince people that I could run this project," Mr Steere says. He chose to carry on and the shareholders were informed three months later when a solution had been found. "I think we have now demonstrated that we could do it," he says proudly.

The climax of Mr Steere's career coincides with the end of an era in the offshore oil industry. In spite of the sheer scale of the Troll, the technology is not new. The next generation of oil platforms will be smaller, explains Mr Steere. Platforms chained to the sea bed and floating production vessels that can be transported to other fields will reduce development costs.

SHELL itself is undergoing an internal upheaval and the organisation that Mr Steere joined 40 years ago is trying to refashion itself to cope with the pressures of a cost-conscious world. As many as 30 per cent of the jobs in Shell's head offices in London and The Hague may be eliminated after a review of the organisation's structure. Mr Steere reckons that Shell will find it increasingly difficult to find career professionals, such as himself, ready to move at the drop of the hat from one project to another across the globe. "Nowadays, young men have wives with jobs of their own and are less prepared to move," he says.

Similarly, the Troll marks a watershed for Norway. The country is Europe's largest oil producer at present, but its oil supply is expected to run out in about 25 years time. Now, thanks partly to Troll, Norway's gas is expected to last for another 100 years. Even so, Norway, which pumps nearly 2.8 million barrels of oil per day, is expected to become the world's second-largest exporter of crude after Saudi Arabia this year.

Having tamed the Troll, Mr Steere and his wife will leave the house that was their home for four years in Bergen and move to Felixstowe, where he will start his new project — a smaller venture but involving no less emotion. "I am trying to buy some land and build a house. I know a bit about handling contractors."

Sadly, gas from the Troll field will not heat the Steere home because the Government has not agreed to imports using existing pipelines to the Norwegian North Sea. But Mr Steere can reflect that he helped to keep the home fires burning from The Netherlands to Spain, supplying one-tenth of Europe's gas for the next 50 years. The Troll will not survive for as long as the pyramids of Egypt but, unlike that monument, the Troll has not cost a single life so far. That is probably a far better monument to any man's achievement.

HIDDEN ASSETS

When the firefighters came with the insurance policy

Neil Bennett on the tangled tale of an old fire engine's final resting place

As Royal Insurance celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, an unusual exhibit at the Chartered Insurance Institute in the City has become the focus of attention. It is a Victorian fire engine, built for Royal in the late 19th century, a key artefact and reminder of the foundation of the Royal in Liverpool in 1845.

The fire engine itself is one of thousands made during the 19th century to protect Britain's rapidly growing cities from blazes that broke out regularly. It was built by Shand & Mason, one of the two main engine manufacturers in Britain. Shand & Mason was founded in 1774 and competed with the better-known Merryweather in a booming business.

The engine was horse drawn with a manual pump that needed as many as ten people to generate the required pressure. The effort was so great that no-one could pump for more than a few minutes. The pumpers earnt tokens exchangeable for ale in a local tavern.

The engine belongs to the closing decades of an era when insurance companies were expected to run their own fire-fighting services to protect their policyholders, before local authorities took control of the service.

The Royal, like its main rivals, owned dozens of fire engines throughout the country. Homes and warehouses would show which company insured them by displaying a lead firemark. Popular legend has it that if a rival company turned up to a fire, they would stand and watch it burn.

By the end of the 19th century, however, many insurance companies were pooling their fire fighting resources to cut costs.

After several decades in the Royal's service, the engine was given to the parish of Changford in Devon, where it continued to operate until well into the current century. Royal is hazy about how the engine came back into its hands, but it reached its current location soon after the Second World War.

The risk of fire was the key catalyst in the formation of the Royal. A group of Liverpool merchants decided the city needed its own insurance company after a great fire in 1842 which destroyed seven acres of valuable warehouses and factories around Formby Street at a cost of £1 million, probably more than £1 billion at today's values.

After the blaze, the London insurance companies became wary of offering cover in Liverpool, whose fast-growing port and industrial centre they regarded as a fire trap. As a result, they raised their premiums.

In response, the merchants formed a joint stock company in March 1845. By June, the first fire policy was issued to one of the new company's directors.

Thanks to the backing of Liverpool's businessmen, the Royal grew at an astonishing rate, and had written 3,800 policies by the end of its first year. It soon opened an office in London and started insuring buildings as far away as India and South America to reduce its exposure to the risk of fire in Liverpool.

To celebrate these beginnings, the Royal had hoped to dust its old fire engine off and make it the centrepiece of parades and trade fairs. The idea soon hit snags. For a start, no-one knows exactly who owns the engine any more. The Royal believes that the Chartered Insurance Institute has it on a long-term loan. The institute reckons it is theirs.

Then the Royal learnt, to its dismay, about the cost of moving the engine. To take it from the second floor would require scaffolding and a major lifting operation which would cost up to £10,000. Reluctantly, the insurer decided to leave the piece of history where it stands. The loan to the institute promises to be a long one indeed.



Richard Gamble, group chief executive, and engine

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Profit-takers stem the week's strong gains

SHARE prices and government bonds showed signs of running out of steam, with investors content to take profits in the wake of this week's strong gains. Attempts to extend the equity market's lead proved short-lived. At one stage the FT-SE 100 index was down almost 14 points, but managed to close above its worst helped by a sharp turnround on Wall Street where the Dow Jones average reversed an opening fall of 17 points. The FT-SE 100 closed 7.6 lower at 3,310.3, its highest level for more than a year. The rise on the week is 58.6.

Turnover fell below the levels achieved earlier this week with just 518 million shares changing hands. In spite of the dramatic revival in the pound's fortunes, investors proved reluctant to open fresh positions. Dealers say they remain unconvinced about Government economic policy after the Chancellor's decision to leave interest rates unchanged last week.

Shares in **SG Warburg** continued to give up ground as brokers reflected on the terms of the £860 million bid revealed by the Swiss Bank Corporation earlier this week. The shares, which at one stage touched 883p after the terms were published, finished 22p down at 772p. Speculators believe a counter-bid now to be remote.

Mercury Asset Management, its 75 per cent-owned quoted offshoot, also retreated 32p to 824p with hopes of an all-out bid also now dashed. Warburg is to dispose of its holding in MAM and distribute the proceeds among shareholders.

Pearson, publisher of the *Financial Times* and owner of Madame Tussaud's, fell 12p to 601p after the annual meeting at which Lord Blakenham, chairman, made bullish noises about current trading. He said the group hoped to see a useful rise in operating profits. Most of the improvement was expected to come from the group's stake in BSkyB, which indicated that margins in other parts of the business were under pressure.

Figures in the current year would also be hit by a £29 million write-off for the closure of the FT's printing plant at London's East India Dock. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, is said to have responded by shaving its profit forecast for Pearson.



Shares in Pearson, owner of Madame Tussaud's, fell 12p

Sir Denys Henderson, outgoing chairman of **Zeneca**, failed to breathe fresh life into the shares in spite of an upbeat statement at the annual meeting. He told shareholders that all the group's businesses were enjoying good underlying volume growth, with the pharmaceutical division maintaining its recent increased pace. Stronger growth in the US had offset dull spots in parts of Europe. The shares finished 13p lower at 918p.

J Sainsbury, the supermarket chain, which earlier this week unveiled strong half-year figures, slipped 1p to 433p. The group has arranged an American Depository Receipt facility for its shares in an attempt to broaden its US investor base and reinforce its commitment to the financial community over there. The facility has been arranged by Citibank and trading on the basis of one ADR for every ordinary share in Sainsbury begins on the over-the-counter market next week.

Tarmac celebrated news of the sale of its brickmaking interests to **Ibstock** with a rise of 3½p to 125½p. Ibstock is paying £65 million for the business, which will make it the second biggest brickmaker in the country. To help finance the deal, Ibstock has arranged a placing and open offer to raise £20 million. The terms will be one-for-nine at 75p a share. Ibstock finished 3p cheaper at 78p.

Laird Group climbed 12p to 364p following a bullish annual meeting. The group told shareholders that the first four months had seen pre-tax profits soaring by more than 50 per cent compared with the corresponding period. The weakness of the pound had also helped the group.

3i, the venture capital group, floated on the stock market last year, fell 9p to 346p as four of its six biggest institutional shareholders announced plans to sell up to 20 per cent of its shares, worth an estimated £400 million, in the market.

The Bank of England, Barclays, Lloyds and HSBC, currently own 32 per cent of the company between them. It is planned to sell the shares following publication of 3i's figures on June 8. The banks originally floated 48 per cent of 3i back in July, last year, at 272p a share.

The water companies attracted some early fresh institutional demand on the back of several brokers' recommendations ahead of the forthcoming dividend season. ABN Amro Hoare Govett and Smith New Court, its rival, have both been telling clients that the sector is oversold and now looks good value for money. Smith New Court calculates that dividends are set to grow on average by 13 per cent. There were gains for **Anglian**, 5p to 499p, **North West**, 6p to 572p, **Northumbrian**, 10p to 900p. **Severn Trent**, 14p to 543p, **South West**, 8p to 509p, **Southern**, 13p to 603p, **Thames**, 6p to 486p, **Welsh**, 10p to 619p, **Wessex**, 4p to 292p and **Yorkshire**, 9p to 559p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: The market failed to respond to sterling's sudden rebound with prices closing with small losses on the day. Dealers said it was a day of consolidation after the gains recorded earlier in the week. Certainly, investors were reluctant to open fresh positions ahead of the welter of economic numbers due next week.

In futures, trading fell way short of the levels achieved recently. The June series of the long gilt finished a couple of ticks lower at £105 13/32 after trading in limits of between £105 and £105 19/32. The number of contracts completed was 50,000, half the amount of the previous couple of days.

Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 slipped £3/32 to £98 3/32, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a tick easier at £99 27/32.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares on Wall Street held on to early gains and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 12.10 points higher at 4,423.29.

IT HAS not been a good week for technology companies with confidence dented in the wake of this week's suspension of shares in Tadpole Technology. Telspec has also continued to lose ground, down 25p at 468p, after Thursday's cautious AGM. Another casualty was Magnum Power, off 19p at 176p.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Tadpole Technology	134p	-72p	Right issue fears
United Biscuits	340p	-8½p	Profits warning
Cookson	238p	+5p	Talking to brokers
Gus Carter	98p	+18p	Stock market debut
Mercury Asset Man.	824p	-63p	Bid hopes recede
Caradon	264p	+22p	Upbeat on prospects
SG Warburg	772p	-70p	Reaction to SBC bid
3i	346p	-10p	Banks to sell 20% stake
Laird Group	365p	+15p	Profits up 50% in first quarter

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 4423.29 (+12.10)
S&P Composite 525.73 (+1.36)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 16420.76 (-40.97)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 9217.83 (+192.17)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 430.02 (+1.15)

Sydney:
AO 2038.8 (+2.4)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2096.92 (+18.84)

Singapore:
Straits 2179.87 (+15.27)

Brussels:
General 7682.30 (+52.28)

Paris:
CAC-40 2017.27 (+13.65)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 636.50 (+8.30)

London:
FT 30 2511.5 (-2.6)
FT 100 3310.3 (-7.6)
FT-SE Mid 250 3611.5 (+5.9)
FT-SE-A 350 1642.8 (-2.3)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1376.31 (+12.33)
FT A All-Share 1623.96 (-1.66)
FT Non Financials 1748.18 (-1.45)
FT Fixed Interest 111.76 (-0.23)
FT Govt Secs 92.80 (-0.21)
Bargains 28343
SEAQ Volume 593.2m
USM (Datastrm) 153.01 (-0.39)
US$ 1.5720 (+0.0015)
German Mark 2.2700 (+0.0495)
Exchange Index 84.7 (+1.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.2113
£:SDR 1.0093
RPI 149.0 Apr (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Brit Aero Cap Uts p/p	728	...
Dumyat IT Cv An Div	105	...
Dumyat IT Mthly Div	105	...
Edin Japan Tst C	102	...
Finsby W'wide Pharm	103	...
General Cable (190)	183	+4½
Gus Carter (80)	98	...
Ivory & Sime Disc Uts	495	...
Oryx India	650	...
Oryx India Wts	250	...
Precoat Intl (125)	135	...
Schder Inc Grth Fd	105	...
Schder Inc Grth Wts	27	...
Scot Oritl Sml Co (100)	100½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Roskel n/p (92)	11	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Union	103p (+8p)
Eve Group	223p (+8p)
Henlys	404p (+9p)
Time Products	247p (+9p)
Charter	839p (+16p)
Mitel	296p (+11p)
Castings	166p (+7p)
EIS	386p (+7p)
Kelsey Ind	330p (+18p)
Airflow Stream	221p (+6p)
Laird	365p (+13p)
AG Barr	372p (+10p)
Dalepak	104p (+10p)
Hutch Whamp	315p (+8½p)
Thomson Corp	885p (+30p)
Provident	584p (+15p)
Fenner	152p (+7p)
Ellis & Everard	280p (+6p)
Wholesale Ftgs	263p (+7p)

FALLS:

Lloyds	675p (-7p)
ICI	763p (-7p)
Broken Hill	807p (-57p)
Telspec	468p (-25p)
McKechnie	424p (-8p)
BICC	332p (-6p)
Smiths Ind	488p (-7p)
MAM	824p (-32p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Second bite at 3i

ONE can hardly blame the banks for wanting to offload more of their holdings in 3i Group, less than a year after the initial flotation. The rise in the share price since last July has simply been too tempting. Even after yesterday's fall, the shares are still 27 per cent above their flotation price.

Such outperformance will not continue indefinitely either. Assuming 3i reports net assets of 350p a share with its results next month, it puts the shares on a wafer-thin discount, compared with the 13.5 per cent discount at the time of the flotation. While 3i insists that a business of its quality with such conservative valuation policies should trade at a premium, investors are unlikely to chase a trust specialising in unquoted companies much above asset value.

For 3i, the deal is more important than a reshuffle among its investors. The sale will cut the banks' stake from 52 per cent to a minority. The trust will finally have full control over its own destiny.

The banks' disposal will also remove the stock overhang from the shares, although it has hardly held them back in the past year. The Bank of England was always guaranteed to sell its entire holding as soon as practicable, and should do so in the upcoming placing. That will leave Lloyds, Barclays and Midland with a modest 12 per cent of the trust, no longer enough to have much impact on the share price. NatWest and the Bank of Scotland, meanwhile, appear to be long-term investors.

The sale will boost the profile and liquidity of a major stock. But 3i will have to perform spectacularly over the next few years to justify its current price.

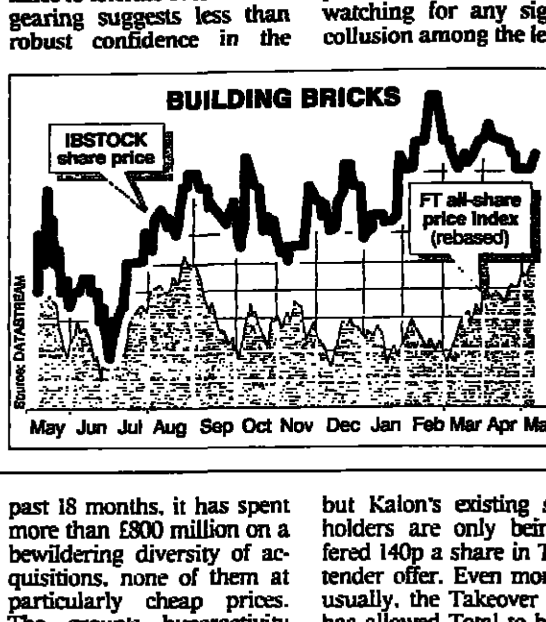
Ibstock

IBSTOCK received a lukewarm welcome for its bricks acquisition, even though the market knew the deal was coming. Such a reaction seems ungenerous at first since the price was reasonable and the benefits for Ibstock considerable. The company almost doubles its market share, putting it alongside Hanson and Redland.

The Tarmac bricks operations are trading on miserable operating margins, but the gross profits are respectable and Ibstock should quite quickly be able to boost profitability with more than £2 million in savings from the removal of duplication in sales, technical and accounting functions.

That said, there remain questions. Ibstock is issuing shares to fund the deal in spite of the prospect of a substantial cash gain from the sale of its majority stake in Caima, the quoted Portuguese woodpulp business. Ibstock's interest is valued by the market at £45 million, more than two-thirds the outlay for the Tarmac purchase.

Ibstock's apparent reluctance to tolerate even modest gearing suggests less than robust confidence in the future of the brick market, which is now benefiting from hefty price increases. By juggling the portfolio, Ibstock should be able to raise the Tarmac brick prices to its own levels, but the weak state of the housing market bodes ill for brick prices and the OFT will be watching for any signs of collusion among the leaders.



Pearson

LORD BLAKENHAM'S remarks at Pearson's annual meeting yesterday seemed tempered with a fair degree of caution for a company that has been engaged in a hectic acquisition spree in the past year. After some anodyne remarks about a generally satisfactory quarter, the chairman sounded warnings about the rise in newsprint prices and, more significantly, margin pressure in the US educational publishing business, one of the areas where the group has made hay in recent years.

The speech was also notable for what it left out. There were no reassuring words about Mindscape, the software publisher that the group paid a high price for last year. That suggests the company's profitability still leaves something to be desired.

Pearson is currently involved in a high-risk initiative to transform itself into a global media group. In the past 18 months, it has spent more than £800 million on a bewildering diversity of acquisitions, none of them at particularly cheap prices. The group's hyperactivity shows no signs of abating, particularly in television. Soon the group needs to demonstrate that all its efforts can benefit its earnings line. In the meantime, a share price that trades on almost 18 times current-year earning forecasts does not adequately price the risks the group is running.

Kalon

KALON is taking a leap into the unknown in its merger with Euridep, Total's paint subsidiary. The prize is to become Britain's largest decorative paint manufacturer by volume, but the price is the company's independence.

The Takeover Panel has surprisingly given the nod to a complex transaction. Kalon is issuing shares to Total for Euridep valued at 150p each, but Kalon's existing shareholders are only being offered 140p a share in Total's tender offer. Even more unusually, the Takeover Panel has allowed Total to bid for only part of Kalon, reducing existing shareholders to a minority of as little as 25 per cent. Shareholders are being offered a 10p sweetener to give the nod to the proposals at next month's extraordinary meeting.

Kalon's management appears to think such financial mechanics are a small price to pay for the chance to enlarge the business so radically. The merged group should have operating profits of up to £50 million. The shares at the placing price are valued at about 15 times earnings. If Kalon achieves the £10 million savings that it promises from the merger, the p/e ratio drops to as little as 12. That is not expensive for shareholders willing to invest in a Total subsidiary.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	923-919	Jul	1031-1027
Jul	941-940	Sep	1041-1037
Sep	961-960	Dec	1065-1060
Dec	987-986	Mar	1083-1075
Mar	1008-1007		
May	1020-1018	Volume: 4333	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	3080-3075	Jan	3023-3006
Jul	3086-3085	Mar	3013-2985
Sep	3045-3044	May	3003-2980
Nov	3028-3020	Volume: 4979	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	290.9-88.6
Spot: 372.9		May	290.8-88.0
Aug	335.3-35.0	Aug	291.2-87.6
Oct	297.5-97.3	Oct	278.6-74.6
Dec	290.9-90.0	Volume: 457	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 11

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	89.79	123.55	123.09
(+/-)	-2.90	+8.53	+0.49
Eng/Wales:	89.75	124.46	122.82
(+/-)	-2.94	+8.88	+0.97
(%)	-17.0	+2.0	+4.0
Scotland:	93.82	104.31	124.05
(+/-)	+1.27	-4.04	-1.35
(%)	-36.0	-42.0	+11.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.95	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.20	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Jul)	17.75	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.30	-0.30
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	19.20	-0.25

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 204 (-2)	O: 206 (-2)
Gasoil EEC	154 (-5)	155 (-5)
Non EEC 1H Jun	151 (-3)	152 (-4)
Non EEC 1H Jul	152 (-3)	153 (-4)
3.5 Fuel Oil	108 (n/c)	110 (n/c)
Naphtha	186 (+1)	188 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)
GAS OIL

Jun	149.75-50.00	Sep	152.75-53.00
Jul	150.50-50.75	Oct	155.50-55.75
Aug	151.25-51.50	Vol: 16751	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	18.20-18.22	Sep	17.21-17.22
Jul	17.71-17.75	Oct	17.09-17.11
Aug	17.43 BID	Vol: 34866	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	122.25	May	114.25
Jul	123.20	Sep	105.25
Sep	108.00	Nov	108.25
Nov	109.05	Jan	110.00
Jan	111.05	Mar	111.65
Volume: 734		Volume: 66	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	123.0	124.8
May	unq	145.0
Jun	...	...
		Volume: 16

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Jun 121.25-121.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 95	2230	2215	2220
Jun 95	2120	2110	2115
Jul 95	1990	1990	2000
Oct 95	1935	1905	1930
Vol: 301 lots		Open interest: 5251	

Index 2299 -12

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2737.0-2738.0	2740.0-2741.0	2274100
Lead ($/tonne)	577.50-579.50	592.00-594.00	165675
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1027.0-1028.0	1050.0-1051.0	570075
Tin ($/tonne)	5685.0-5695.0	5685.0-5690.0	26545
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1731.0-1731.5	1738.5-1739.0	1534925
Nickel ($/tonne)	6990.0-7000.0	7130.0-7140.0	71244

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
Alld Dom.	500	45	49	56	5½	10	16½
(*542½)	550	11	20½	28½	28½	33	40½
Argyll	280	22½	27	32½	5½	10	13½
(*298½)	300	9½	16½	22	15½	19½	23½
ASDA	80	5	6½	8½	3½	4½	6
(*81)	90	1½	3	4	10	11	12
Boots	500	31½	41½	47	9½	13	17½
(*527)	550	5½	17½	22	38	40	43
Br Airways	420	20	28½	38	14½	20½	24½
(*429½)	460	4½	12	20½	41	45	47½
BP	460	15	25½	32½	13½	20½	23½
(*461½)	500	3	10	16½	43	46	48
Br Steel	160	16½	18½	20½	2½	5½	6½
(*174)	180	4	8	10½	12	15	16½
C & W	420	17	29	37½	16½	22	26½
(*422½)	460	4½	13½	20½	44½	48	51
CU	550	49	58	68	7	15½	20½
(*586½)	600	17	30	41	27	38½	44
ICI	750	34½	47½	64	15½	28	33½
(*763)	800	12	24½	48	43½	56	61
Kingfishr.	460	33½	46	55½	9	17	22
(*481½)	500	12½	24½	35	28	36½	41½
Land Sec	550	49	52	56	6	9	16½
(*596½)	600	11	22	29	29	32½	37½
M & S	420	17	26½	33½	11	16½	18½
(*428½)	460	3	10	16	39	42	42½
Nat West	500	57	64	74½	4½	10½	14½
(*548)	550	22½	32½	44½	19	29	34
Sainsbury	430	17½	29	36½	11½	14	18½
(*434)	460	3	11½	18	37½	39	41
Shell	750	26	39½	51	12½	23½	28
(*750½)	800	6	16	27	44½	52½	55½
Smkl Bch.	500	21	32	41½	13½	23½	27
(*505½)	550	4	13	20½	49½	54	57
Storehse	240	12½	19	22½	9	10½	12½
(*244)	260	3½	10½	13½	21	22	24
Trafalgar	50	8½	11	12	1	2½	3½
(*57)	60	3	5½	6½	5	6½	8½
Unilever	1150	59	80½	102	12	21	29½
(*1182½)	1200	29½	56½	72½	33	42	50
Zeneca	900	45½	64	84	16	31½	38½
(*917½)	950	20	39	58½	41½	56½	63½
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Grnd Met.	390	8	20½	27½	1½	13½	17½
(*396)	420	0	7½	13½	24	31½	35
Ladbroke	180	3½	12½	16½	1	7	9½
(*183)	200	0	4	8	17	19	21
Utd Bisc	330	9½	24	31½	1	9½	16
(*338½)	360	0	11	17	21½	26	32

Series		Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
BAA	460	32	41	48	6½	10½	16½
(*484½)	500	9½	20	27	26½	29½	36
Thames W	460	31½	35	40	10	16½	22½
(*485½)	500	8	16	20½	35	39	44½
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
BAT Ind	460	33½	46	51½	0	10	16
(*493)	500	2½	21½	29	10	27½	33½
BTR	330	8½	20	25	1	8	14
(*338)	360	0	6	10½	22	25	31
Br Aero	531	14½	—	—	4½	—	—
(*540)	580	1	—	—	40	—	—
Br Telcm	390	17	25½	30	0½	10½	14
(*406½)	420	0½	8½	15½	14	27½	30
Cadbury	447	15½	31	—	1	8½	—
(*462)	486	0	11	—	24	28½	—
Guinness	460	17	33	40½	1	10	15
(*476)	500	0	13	20	24	30	35
GEC	300	20½	25	25½	0½	6	8
(*320)	330	1½	6½	12½	12	21½	23½
Hanson	240	10½	15	19	0	5	9
(*250)	260	0½	6	9½	10	16	19½
LASMO	160	9½	15½	21	0½	4½	6
(*169)	180	0	5½	11	11½	14½	16
Lucas	180	16½	23	27	0	3½	7½
(*196½)	200	1½	11	15½	4½	10½	16½
Pilkngtn	180	8	13	17	1	6	7½
(*187½)	200	0	4	7½	13	17½	18½
Prudential	330	5	19½	25½	2½	9½	15½
(*333½)	360	0	7	12	26½	28½	32½
Redland	420	36½	47	56½	0	5½	11½
(*456)	460	3½	22	32	7	19½	27
R-Royce	180	4½	14	17½	1	7	10½
(*184)	200	0	5½	9	16	18½	21½
Tesco	260	13½	21½	26½	0	4½	7½
(*273)	280	1	9½	15	7½	13	16½
Vodafone	180	17½	22½	28	0	3½	6
(*197½)	200	2	10½	17	4	11½	14½
Williams	330	14	25	29½	0½	6	11
(*343½)	360	0½	9½	14½	16½	21	26½

FT-SE INDEX (*3309)

	3200	3250	3300	3350	3400	3450
Calls						
May	119	71½	31	8½	1	1
Jun	134	94½	61½	36	18½	8
Jul	161	124½	94	67½	45	29½
Aug	176	140½	110	85	59	41½
Dec	244½	—	183	—	134	—
Puts						
May	1	4	14	44	91	141
Jun	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Series		Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Abby Nat	460	30½	40½	49½	3½	11	15
(*484)	500	7½	18	27½	21½	30	34
Amstrad	200	10	17	21½	5	9½	12½
(*204)	220	2½	8	12½	17½	20½	23½
Barclays	650	27½	42	59	10	24½	31½
(*663)	700	6	18½	34	39½	52	58½
Blue Circ	300	19½	20	25½	4	10½	15
(*313½)	330	5	13½	21	19½	25	30
Br Gas	300	8½	17½	22½	6	10	14½
(*302½)	330	0½	5½	10	27½	29	33
Dixons	220	21	23½	27½	2	8	9½
(*238)	240	7½	11½	16½	9	17	18½
Forte	220	19½	25½	29	1	3½	5½
(*237)	240	5½	13	17	7½	11	13½
Hillsdwn	180	6	12	16	4½	7	9½
(*182)	200	0½	4	7½	18½	20	21½
Lonrho	160	11½	15	20	1½	5	7½
(*168½)	180	2	5	10½	12	15½	17½
Sears	110	4	6½	9	3	5	5½
(*113½)	120	0½	2½	4½	10	11	11½
Thrn EMI	1150	55½	72½	88½	8½	30½	37½
(*1190½)	1200	23½	44	62	26½	55½	61½
Tomkins	240	12	17	21½	4	11	12½
(*249½)	260	3	7½	12½	15½	22½	24
TSB	240	18½	24½	29½	3	9	12
(*253)	260	7	14	19	12	19	21½
Wellcome	1000	74½	80	—	0	1	—
(*1073½)	1050	24½	35½	—	1	9	—
Series		**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**
Glaxo Well	700	58	72	78	7	22	27½
(*743)	750	27	42	50½	25½	49½	51
HSBC	800	41½	64	83½	30	49½	57
(*804½)	850	20½	41½	60½	59	77	84
Reuter	460	32	43	54½	8½	15½	19½
(*478½)	500	11½	22½	34	28	35½	39½
Series		**May**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**May**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Royal Ins	300	27	33½	39	0	4½	9½
(*326½)	330	3½	14	21	6	15½	22
Series		**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**
Fisons	180	13	20	25½	4½	8½	12
(*188)	200	4	10½	16	15	19	22
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Eastern Gp	600	48	66	73	0	17½	25½
(*647½)	650	5½	35	49½	5½	41	49
Series		**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**
Natl Pwr	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 95	3334.0	3335.0	3308.0	3322.0	11670
Previous open interest: 73556	Sep 95	3350.0	3350.0	3336.5	3345.0	705
FT-SE 250	Jun 95				3625.0	0
Previous open interest: 4028	Sep 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 95	92.90	92.98	92.87	92.97	20412
Previous open interest: 405477	Sep 95	92.45	92.55	92.40	92.52	33785
	Dec 95	92.16	92.24	92.11	92.21	11758
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.88	0
Previous open interest: 1184	Sep 95				93.94	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	95.39	95.40	95.35	95.35	26570
Previous open interest: 675352	Sep 95	95.28	95.28	95.20	95.23	52433
Long Gilt	Jun 95	105-10	105-19	105-00	105-13	50132
Previous open interest: 100731	Sep 95	104-31	104-31	104-23	105-01	106
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	116.93	117.15	116.60	116.83	5455
	Sep 95	116.10	116.11	115.75	115.93	599
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	93.82	93.95	93.63	93.84	133033
Previous open interest: 199818	Sep 95	93.30	93.30	93.17	93.27	554
Three month ECU	Jun 95	93.83	93.83	93.70	93.77	1152
Previous open interest: 21002	Sep 95	93.83	93.83	93.67	93.75	1029
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.45	96.45	96.28	96.32	11473
Previous open interest: 43963	Sep 95	96.35	96.35	96.14	96.21	6579
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	100.70	101.18	100.26	100.96	37468
Previous open interest: 47263	Sep 95	100.00	100.20	99.80	100.30	477

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7 Low 5 Week fixed: 5⅞
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅞; 3 mth 6⅞. Sell: 2 mth 6¾; 3 mth: 6¾.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	6¾-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	6⅞-6¾	6⅞-6¾	
Sterling Money Rates	6¾-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	6⅞-6¾	7-7	7⅛-7
Interbank	6¾-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	6⅞-6¾	7-7	7⅛-7

Overnight: open 5¾, close 6¾.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps	6¾	n/a	6⅞	7⅛	7¼
Sterling CDs	6¾-6⅝	6¾-6⅝	6⅞-6¾	7-6⅞	7¼-7⅛
Dollar CDs	6.05	n/a	6.33	7.08	7.18
Building Society CDs	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6¾-6⅝	7⅛-6⅞	7¼-7⅛

TREASURY BILLS: Applics: £4.704m allotted: £1.100m: Bids: £98.43% received: 25%: Last week: £98.45% received: 57%: Avge rate: £6.2693% last wk £6.2097%: Next week: £1.100m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5½	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	5⅛-4⅞
Deutschemark:	4⅛-4	4⅛-4	4⅛-4	4⅛-4	5-4
French Franc:	7⅛-7	7⅝-7½	7⅝-7½	6⅞-6¾	8⅛-6½
Swiss Franc:	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-2⅛
Yen:	1¼-1⅛	1¼-1⅛	1¼-1⅛	1¼-1⅛	1⅛-1

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $383.50-384.00 Close: $383.20-383.70 High: $384.90-385.40 Low: $382.30-382.80 AM: $384.10 PM: $384.60
Krugerrand: $386.00-388.00 (£245.50-247.50)
Platinum: $433.00 (£275.95) Silver: $5.22 (£3.325) Palladium: $159.00 (£101.00)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for May 12	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5313-2.5627	2.5377-2.5410	¼-⅛pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Brussels	46.44-46.87	46.56-46.66	8-4pr	22-14pr
Copenhagen	8.8030-8.9860	8.8360-8.8500	par-⅛ds	⅛-⅛ds
Dublin	0.9765-0.9840	0.9779-0.9805	1-3ds	par-5ds
Frankfurt	2.2604-2.2890	2.2697-2.2728	¼-⅛pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Lisbon	236.75-240.05	237.56-238.19	42-48ds	117-130ds
Madrid	194.95-197.40	195.58-195.88	60-69ds	178-196ds
Milan	2608.10-2649.70	2608.80-2618.40	6-9ds	19-23ds
Montreal	2.1244-2.1318	2.1252-2.1282	0.16-0.26ds	0.21-0.34ds
New York	1.5676-1.5723	1.5710-1.5720	0.06-0.03pr	0.26-0.22pr
Oslo	10.0610-10.1990	10.1010-10.1160	⅛-⅛pr	2⅛-1⅛pr
Paris	7.9170-8.0280	7.9370-7.9510	⅛-1ds	⅛-1⅛ds
Stockholm	11.5240-11.6220	11.5580-11.5820	1⅛-2⅛ds	[illegible]

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3511-1.3530
Austria	10.14-10.15
Belgium (Com)	29.64-29.65
Canada	1.3555-1.3560
Denmark	5.6130-5.6180
France	5.0565-5.0575
Germany	1.4425-1.4430
Hong Kong	7.7350-7.7360
Ireland	1.5986-1.6006
Italy	1666.0-1666.8
Japan	86.38-86.43
Malaysia	2.4915-2.4925
Netherlands	1.6153-1.6158
Norway	6.4165-6.4215
Portugal	151.11-151.21
Singapore	1.4085-1.4095
Spain	124.42-124.52
Sweden	7.3384-7.3484
Switzerland	1.2020-1.2030

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5635-1.5661
Australia dollar	2.1140-2.1176
Bahrain dinar	0.582-0.594
Brazil real*	1.3899-1.3940
China yuan	12.50 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.698-0.708
Finland markka	6.835-6.951
Greece drachma	361.00-368.00
Hong Kong dollar	12.1169-12.1223
India rupee	48.52-49.48
Indonesia rupiah	3446.00-3514.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4555-0.4665
Malaysia ringgit	3.9029-3.9057
New Zealand dollar	2.3708-2.3741
Pakistan rupee	48.52-49.48
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.790-5.916
Singapore dollar	2.2111-2.2141
S Africa rand (com)	5.7402-5.7463
U A E dirham	5.6675-5.7915

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	2,000	Legal & Gn	646
ASDA Gp	3,400	Lloyds Bk	2,600
Abbey Natl	1,800	MEPC	636
Alld Dom	1,900	Marks Spr	1,300
Argyll Gp	2,900	NatWst Bk	3,000
Arjo Wiggn	2,300	Nat Power	788
AB Foods	339	Nth Wst W	1,100
BAA	837	P & O	1,600
BAT Inds	5,300	Pearson	2,700
BOC	753	PowerGen	1,200
BP	11,000	Prudential	3,400
BTR	3,100	RMC	270
BT	8,600	RTZ	2,100
Bk of Scot	769	Rank Org	2,300
Barclays	1,700	Reckitt Col	2,100
Bass	1,600	Redland	2,600
Blue Circle	1,600	Reed Intl	2,000
Boots	1,000	Rentokil	821
Bowater	438	Reuters	2,700
Brit Aero	508	Rolls Royce	5,800
Brit Airwys	2,400	Ryl Ins	1,800
Brit Gas	6,100	Ryl Bk Scot	4,300
Brit Steel	13,000	Sainsbury	1,200
Burmah Cstl	437	Schroders	31
Cable Wire	4,000	Scot & New	2,300
Cadbury	1,500	Scot Power	1,900
Caradon	1,500	Sears	3,700
Carlton Cms	152	Svrn Trent	1,000
Cm Union	757	Shell Trans	4,700
Courtaulds	695	Siebe	2,100
De La Rue	477	SmKl Bch	4,300
Eastern Elec	600	Smith Nph	1,800
Enterpr Oil	1,600	Sthern Elec	255
Forte	2,000	Std Chartd	1,500
GKN	475	Sun Allnce	2,400
GRE	3,800	TI Gp	421
GUS	894	TSB	801
Gen Acc	662	Tate & Lyle	289
Gen Elec	5,200	Tesco	3,300
Glaxo Well	3,100	Thames W	1,000
Granada	936	Thrn EMI	405
Grand Met	6,100	Tomkins	3,400
Guinness	2,300	Unilever	1,700
HSBC	2,100	Utd Bisc	1,400
Hanson	11,000	Vodafone	3,500
ICI	2,300	Warburg	3,100

WALL STREET

	May 12 midday	May 11 close
AMP Inc	43	42¾
AMR Corp	69¼	68¾
AT & T	51½	51½
Abbott Labs	39¾	40¼
Advanced Micro	35½	37¼
Aetna Life	59¼	59¾
Ahmanson (HF)	22¼	22¼
Air Prod & Chem	51¼	51¾
Albertson's	30¾	30¾
Alcan Aluminum	27¼	27¾
Alco Standard	71¾	71¼
Allied Signal	41¼	40¾
Alum Co of Am	45¼	44¾
Amax Gold Inc	5¾	5¾
Amerada Hess	51½	51½
Amer Brands	41¼	41½
Amer El Power	32¾	32½
Amer Express	35½	35¾
Amer Genl Corp	32¼	32¼
Amer Home Pr	75½	76
Amer Intl	112¼	112¾
Amer Stores	25¼	25½
Ameritech	45¼	44¼
Amoco	66¼	66
Anheuser-Busch	58¾	58¾
Apple Computer	41½	41
Archer Daniels	18½	18½
Armco	6¾	6¼
Armstrng Wrld	50¾	50½
Asarco	26¼	26¼
Ashland Oil	37½	37¾
Atl Richfield	115½	115
Auto Data Pro	64¼	64¾
Avery Dennison	42¾	42¼
Avon Products	64½	65
Baker Hughes	22¾	22½
Baltim Gas & El	23¼	23¼
Banc One	31½	30¾
BankAmerica	51½	50¾
Bank of NY	36¾	36½
Bankers Tr NY	59¼	58¾
Barnett Banks	47¼	47
Bausch & Lomb	39¾	39¾
Baxter Intl	34¾	35½
Becton Dickinsn	57¼	57¼
Bell Atlantic	56½	56½
Bell Industries	19½	19¾
BellSouth	62¾	62½
Black & Decker	29¼	29¼
Block (H&R)	40¾	40¾
Boeing	54½	54½
Boise Cascade	33¾	33½
Bristol Myrs Sq	65¾	65¾
Browning Ferris	35½	35½
Brunswick	22¾	22
Burlington Nthn	58¾	58½
CBS	64½	63¾
CNA Financial	81¼	82¼
CPC Intl	59¾	60
CSX	76½	76½
Campbell Soup	49¼	49¾
Can Pacific	16¼	17
Cptl Cities ABC	84½	83¾
Carolina Pwr	28¾	28¾
Caterpillar	60¼	58¼
Central & SW	24¼	24¼
Champion Intl	45½	45½
Chase Manhar	46¾	46¼
Chemical Bk	45	44¼
Chevron Corp	47¼	47¾
Chrysler	43¼	42¾
Chubb Corp	83¼	83¾
Cigna Corp	74½	74½
Citicorp	50	50½
Clorox	58½	58¾
Coastal Corp	30¼	30
Coca Cola	60¾	60¼
Colgate-Palmolive	72¼	72½
Columbia Gas	29¾	29
Compaq Comp	38½	38
Comp Ass Int	70	69¼
Conagra	32¾	33
Conrail	52¾	53
Cons Edison	27¾	27½
Cons Nat Gas	38¾	38¾
Cooper Inds	38½	38¾
Corning Inc	34	33½
Crown Cork	44½	43¼
Dana Corp	27½	27¼
Dayton Hudson	70¼	71
Deere	87½	86
Delta Air Lines	64½	63½
Deluxe Corp	30¼	30¾
Detroit Edison	28¾	29½
Digital Equip	45½	45½
Dillard Dept St	27¼	27¼
Disney (Walt)	54½	54
Dominion Res	37¼	37¼
Donelley (RR)	35¼	34½
Dover Corp	66¾	66¾
Dow Chemical	73½	72¾
Dow Jones	36½	36¾
Dresser	22½	22
Duke Power	39¾	40
Dun & Bradstreet	[illegible]	[illegible]

	May 12 midday	May 11 close
Enron Corp	34½	34½
Ensergy	22¼	22¾
Ethyl Corp	11½	11
Exxon	69¼	69¾
FMC Corp	63¾	63¾
FPL Group	37	37¼
Federal Express	62¾	62¾
Fed Nat Mtge	92¾	93½
First Chicago	57¼	57¼
First Interstate	82¾	82½
First Union Rlty	7¾	7¼
Fleet Finl Grp	33¼	33
Fluor Corp	50¼	50¾
Ford Motor	28½	27¾
GTE Corp	33¼	33½
Gannett	53¾	53½
Gap Inc Del	33¼	33½
Gen Dynamics	45½	45½
Gen Electric	58¼	58½
Gen Mills	60¼	60¾
Gen Motors	45¼	45¼
Gen Reinsurance	134¼	133½
Gen Signal	38	37¾
Genuine Parts	38¾	38¾
Georgia Pac	80¼	79¾
Gillette	84½	84½
Glaxo Wellc ADR	23¼	23¼
Goodrich (BF)	47½	46¼
Goodyear Tire	40	40¾
Grace (W&R)	62¾	62¼
Grt All Pac Tea	25¾	25½
Great Wstn Fin	21½	21½
Halliburton	38¾	37¾
Harcourt General	41¼	41¼
Heinz (HJ)	43¼	43
Hercules	50¾	49¾
Hershey Foods	51½	51¼
Hewlett Packard	68¾	68
Hilton Hotels	69¾	71½
Home Depot	43¼	42¾
Homestake Mng	15¼	15¾
Honeywell	39¾	39¾
Household Intl	48½	48¾
Houston Inds	40¾	40½
Humana	21¼	21¼
ITT Corp	112¾	113½
Illinois Tool	50¾	49¼
Illinova	23½	23¼
INCO	24	24
Ingersoll Rand	36¼	36¼
Inland Steel	27¼	28½
Intel Corp	109¾	109¾
IBM	95¼	94
Intl Flav & Fr	49¼	49¾
Intl Paper	79¼	78¼
James River Va	25¼	25¼
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	66¼	67¼
Kellogg	65¾	66¼
Kerr-McGee	54	53½
Kimberly-Clark	57¾	58¼
Kmart	13½	13¾
Knight-Ridder	54¼	54
Lilly (Eli)	71½	72¼
Limited Inc	22¼	22
LIN Brdcstng	123¼	123¾
Lincoln Nat	42¼	43
Litton	35¼	35¾
Liz Claiborne	18½	18¼
Lockheed Martin	57¼	57¼
Louisiana Pac	28¾	27¼
MCI Comm	20¾	20¼
Marriott Int	35¼	35½
Marsh & McLnn	77¼	77¼
Masco Corp	28¾	28¾
May Dept St	39	37¾
Maytag Corp	16¼	16¼
McDonalds	37½	37
McDonnell D	67¼	65¾
McGraw Hill	74¼	74¼
Mead Corp	52¾	52¾
Medtronic	76	76½
Mellon Bk	42¾	42¼
Melville Corp	36¼	36¾
Merck Inc	42¾	43½
Merrill Lynch	47¼	47¾
Minnesota Mine	62	61½
Mobil Corp	97¼	97¼
Monsanto	83¼	82¾
Morgan (JP)	68	67¾
Motorola Inc	59½	58¾
Natl Semi	25¼	24¾
Natl Service Ind	27¾	28½
Navistar Int	15½	15
NBD Bancorp	31½	31½
NY Times A	23¾	23¾
Newmont Mng	38¾	38¼
Niag Mohawk	14½	14½
Nike B	78¾	78¾
NL Industries	14¼	14¼
Noram Energy	6½	6½
Nordstrom	37¼	36½
Norfolk Sthrn	64½	64¼
Nthn State Pwr	45¼	45½
Norwest Corp	28¼	27¾

	May 12 midday	May 11 close
PPG Industries	39¼	38¾
PNC Bank	25½	25¾
Paccar Inc	46	46¾
Pacificorp	18¾	18¾
Pac Enterprises	26	25¾
Pac Gas & Elect	26¾	26¾
Pac Telesis	29¾	29¾
Pall Corp	22¾	22¾
Panhandle East	24¾	28½
Parker Hannifin	54¾	54¾
Peco Energy	26¾	26¾
Penney (JC)	47¼	46¾
Pennzoil	49¾	49¾
Pepsico	45¾	45¾
Pfizer	83¾	85¼
Phelps Dodge	58¾	59¼
Philip Morris	70¾	71½
Phillips Pet	36¾	35¾
Pitney Bowes	38¾	38¾
Polaroid	35¾	36
PriceCostco	14½	14¾
Procter & Gmbl	70¾	70¾
Providian	34½	34¾
Pub Serv E & G	28	27¾
Quaker Oats	35½	35½
Ralston Purina	49½	49¾
Raychem Corp	39¾	39½
Raytheon	74½	74¾
Reebok Intl	32¾	33
Reynolds Metals	47¾	48½
Roadway Srvcs	45	45
Rockwell Intl	45	44½
Rohm & Haas	60	60¾
Royal Dutch	123½	124¾
Rubbermaid	31¾	31½
SBC Comms	44¾	44¾
Safeco Corp	57¾	57¾
St Paul's Cos	49¾	50
Salomon Inc	38½	39¼
Santa Fe Pac	23¾	12¾
Sara Lee Corp	27½	27¾
Seecorp	16¾	16¾
Schering Plough	74¾	74¾
Schlumberger	62¾	63
Scott Paper	91¼	91¾
Seagram	27½	27¾
Sears Roebuck	56¾	56¾
Shell Trans	71½	72¾
Sherwin Wlms	36¾	37
Skyline Corp	18½	18¾
Snap-On-Tools	36½	36¾
Southern Co	20¾	20¾
Sprint Corp	32¾	32¾
Stanley Works	39¾	40
Sun Company	31½	31½
Sun Microsys	44	43¾
Suntrust	56	55¾
Supervalu	26¾	26¾
Sysco Corp	27½	27¾
TRW Inc	73¾	72¾
TCC Inds	1¼	1¾
Tandem Comp	13½	13¾
Tandy Corp	49	48¾
Teledyne	25¾	25
Temple Inland	49¾	48
Tenet Healthcare	16¾	16½
Tenneco	47½	46
Texaco	67¾	68¼
Texas Inst	118	114¾
Texas Utilities	33¾	33¾
Textron	57¾	57¾
Time Warner	38¾	37½
Times-Mirror A	22	22¾
Timken	42¾	42¾
Torchmark	38	39
Toys R Us	27	25¾
Transamerica	59¾	57¾
Travelers	42¼	43
Tribune	59	59¾
Tyco Labs	54½	54¾
UST Inc	29¾	29
UAL	117	115¾
USX Marathon	18¾	18
Unicom	25¾	25¾
Unilever NV	128¼	125¾
Union Camp	53¾	53
Union Carbide	32	31½
Union Pacific	55	55
Unisys Corp	11	11
USAIR Group	7¾	7¾
USF&G Corp	16¾	16¾
US Life	37½	37½
US West	41¾	41½
United Tech	79¾	78¾
Unocal Corp	28¼	29
Upjohn	35¾	35½
VF Corp	52¾	52¾
WMX Tech	28	28
Wal-Mart Stores	25¾	24¾
Warner-Lambert	80¾	81¾
Wells Fargo	173½	172¾
Westinghouse El	14½	14¾
Weyerhaeuser	43¼	43¾
Whirlpool	52	51¾

نسخة من الأصل



STATE BURDEN 28
Paying for long-term residential care

WEEKEND MONEY

WISE BUYS 30
Three sectors to help savers keep up the pace



A question of interest rate rises

Sara McConnell explains why mortgage rates may have to increase in the near future

You may have thought you were safe from another mortgage-rate rise, but the reprieve is temporary, say economists. This week's publication of lower inflation figures for last month may not be enough to stave off a rise, probably of half a percentage point, in the next month, and lenders say they will respond with higher mortgage rates. At the same time, they will almost certainly raise rates for savers as well.

So how much further are rates going to rise? Are building societies still making a nice profit from the difference between what they pay out to savers and what they charge borrowers? Quite apart from all this, what should you do with your own money? Should you take no chances if you are borrowing and fix your rate? As a saver, should you leave your money earning a variable rate to take advantage of more rate rises, or should you fix your rate so that you know what you are getting? A lot depends on personal circumstances, but here are answers to some of the questions.

Q ***Why must interest rates rise? I thought inflation was falling.***

A It is true year-on-year inflation last month fell slightly. But what is putting pressure on interest rates is the Bank of England's prediction on Thursday that the Government will miss the inflation target it has set itself of 2.5 per cent by the general election in spring 1997. Analysts also think Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will lose credibility in the markets if he does not match talk of curbing inflation with action.

Q **Why will they put up mortgage rates?**

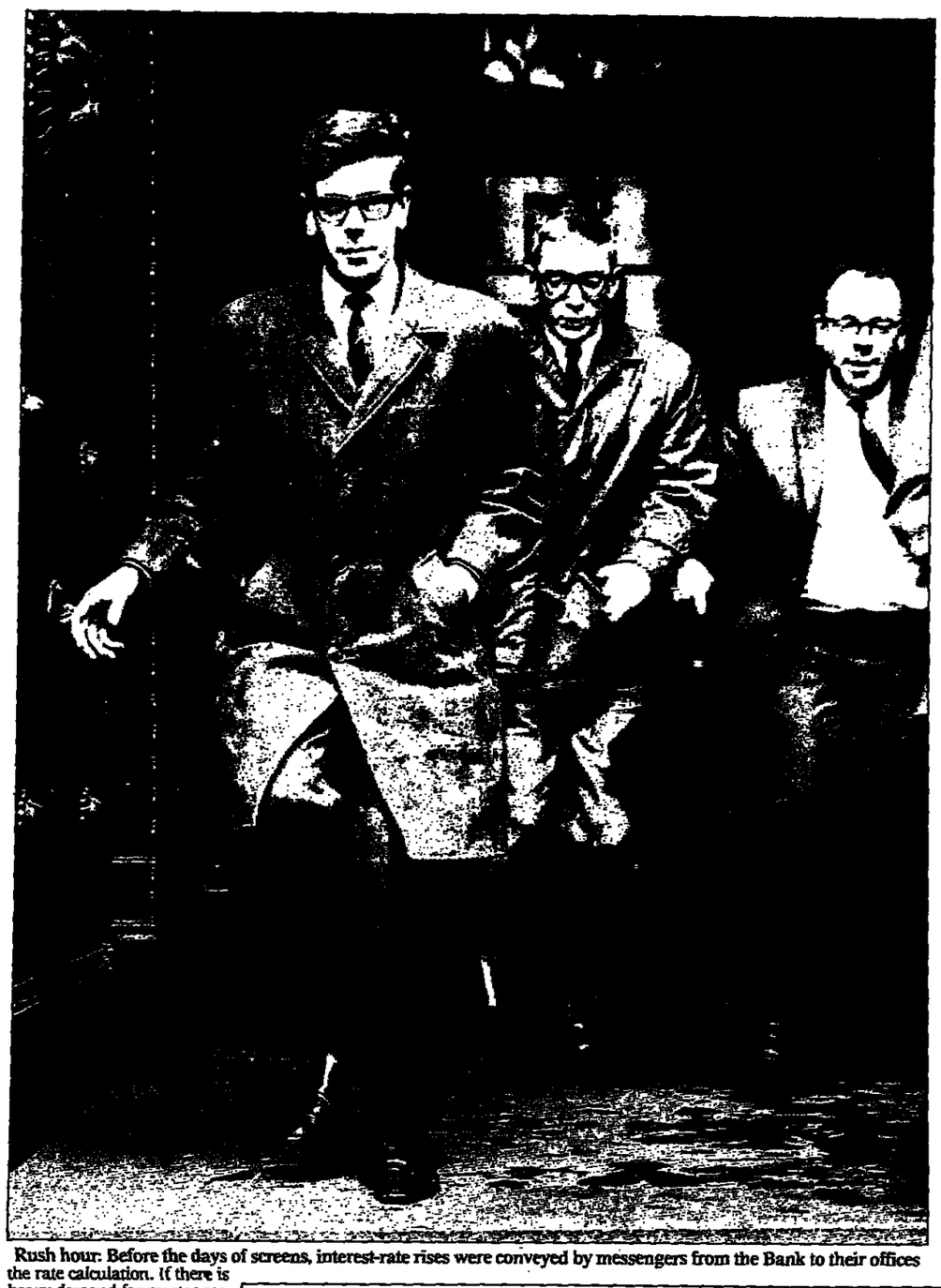
A Lenders held down mortgage rates in February because they thought a rise would be a serious blow to the housing market. This is still their view, as there are no signs of improvement. But this time they claim they cannot afford to hold back. Abbey National says there have been four base-rate rises totalling 2 per cent since September, but it has only put up the cost of loans by 0.7 per cent. Much depends on what the big lenders, particularly the Halifax, do. Once it moves, others will follow. But they know big rises will frighten off potential borrowers, and lenders are desperate for business, so they will not pass on the whole cost. A half-point rise in base rates will probably mean a quarter-point rise in mortgage rates. On a £50,000 repayment mortgage this means an extra £7.52 a month.

Q **But surely they can afford to hold rates down? Presumably they are making a decent profit from the difference between the rate charged to borrowers and that paid to savers?**

A The margin between savers' and borrowers' rates has narrowed slightly recently because lenders are no longer having to make such high provisions for bad debts, but it still averages just over 2 per cent. In some cases it is much larger. The current variable mortgage rate at the Halifax is 8.35 per cent. But the bank only pays out 4.65 per cent gross on £5,000 in an instant-access account, making its margin 3.7 per cent. Other lenders have similar rates. When interest rates were at their height at the end of 1989, the current variable rate was 14.5 per cent, but on a £5,000 instant access account it was 12.18 per cent gross, a margin of just 2.32 per cent. Of course, many borrowers with fixed rates and discounts pay less than the current variable rate and many savers earn more. Other factors also come into the rate calculation. If there is heavy demand for mortgages, savers' rates are relatively generous to attract funds.

Q **Would I do better with a fixed-rate mortgage?**

A There are plenty of good fixed-rate loans around. At least one lender, Abbey National, cut its fixed rates last week by between 0.75 per cent and 1 per cent, making its five-year fixed rate 8.75 per cent. The Cheltenham & Gloucester has a five-year fixed rate of 8.99 per cent. As interest rates are rising, it may be a good time to fix. But deciding to fix depends on your view of interest rates. If you think they still have some way to rise and could be in double figures by next year, many fixed rates will look cheap. But they will not if you believe, as many economists do, that low inflation and thus low interest rates will continue and mortgage rates will not rise above about 9.5 per cent.



Rush hour: Before the days of screens, interest-rate rises were conveyed by messengers from the Bank to their offices

Redress closer for mis-selling

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

THE compensation claims of thousands of people who may have been mis-sold a personal pension through an independent financial adviser can go ahead unimpeded after a High Court decision.

The High Court yesterday dismissed claims by a group of independent financial advisers that the Securities and Investments Board, the City watchdog, did not have the power to lay down the regulations for the way in which people should be compensated.

The IFAs, however, did manage to clarify the position concerning professional indemnity cover. They were concerned that the proposed system of finding people who had been the victims of bad advice could invalidate advisers' professional indemnity cover, which could mean that IFAs would have to pay the compensation themselves. An action that could cause many financial advisers to go out of business.

Both SIB and the IFA Association, seemed to herald the High Court decision as a victory. In reality, for investors hoping to seek redress there will be very little difference for their claims.

Anyone who has been misadvised over a pensions transfer or opt out will be contacted by the insurance company, financial adviser or Personal Investment Authority and the claim can proceed from that point.

A spokesman for the Personal Investment Authority, the regulator which is in charge of carrying out the review said that it would proceed in the way that SIB had envisaged.

However, he added: "There may be circumstances where the financial adviser could be told by their PI insurer that they are in danger of invalidating their cover. There could be several reasons for this. The situation would then be handled by the PIA Pensions Unit."

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Take an interest in takeovers

Building society speculation is rife. Savers are eagerly calculating which societies are next in line for takeover or merger and opening share accounts with the minimum £100 needed to qualify them for bonus payouts of cash or shares.

The question is: which of the prospective targets will pay the best rate on your savings while you await the hoped-for takeover announcement. You will never get rich on the interest that £100, or even £500, earns But since no one knows which society will go first, you might as well make the most of your money.

The advantage of betting on building societies is that you do not risk losing your capital. But the more you spread your money around, the less you you are likely to earn on it. If you do not strike lucky, you could find yourself with lots of small investments earning minimal interest.

To find the best rewards, check out the different types of account on offer.

Several societies are believed to be close to a merger or takeover. You benefit most if your society is a target. What the targets are paying:

■ Alliance & Leicester. Could be a target for the Nationwide, or possibly the Woolwich. With £100, your best option is the instant access account, paying 0.75 per cent gross, 0.56 per cent net on balances of £100. At £500, the rate is 4.3 per cent gross, 3.2 per cent net. There are no-notice accounts until a balance hits £1,000, when the Bonus 180 account pays 5.25 per cent gross, 3.93 per cent net. If you make no withdrawals during the year, you get a bonus of 0.5 per cent.

■ Britannia. Said to be keen to sell and an attractive proposition for European banks. At £100, you are restricted to the instant access account. The minimum balance is £10, on which you earn 0.5 per cent gross, 0.37 per cent net. At £500, the rate goes up to 4.4 per cent gross, 3.3 per cent net.

■ Bradford & Bingley. Could also be a target for the Woolwich. The First Choice instant access account pays the most generous interest of the three societies. On balances of £100 — 1.3 per cent gross, 0.97 per cent net. If you make three or fewer withdrawals a year, you get an annual bonus of 0.75 per cent.

SARA MCCONNELL

Speculating on speculators

INVESTMENT STRATEGY



ANTHONY HARRIS

Anyone reading the more excitable newspapers (though not, I am glad to say, *The Times*) must recently have been expecting frightening news. No, not "expecting"; markets, we invariably read, are "braced for" it. (How, I wonder?) First the Group of Seven met, argued, and did nothing. The market was braced for a collapse of the dollar; it rose.

Then Kenneth Clarke declined to do what the market was expecting — not braced this time, but relaxed — and refused to raise UK interest rates. More bracing.

The pound did initially fall (it fooled me, too); but now it has bounced in turn, outpaced only by the still resurgent dollar. Investors who did anything more than tighten their braces have lost quite heavily.

How can the analysts who provide the authority for these false alarms get it so wrong? No problem, you may think unkindly; they get everything wrong. This is less than fair. Analysts often get important things right in the real world they understand; it is in the shadowy world of markets that they tend to fall flat on their faces.

One example will do: Roger Bootle. For several years now he and his team at HSBC (known as Greenwell Montagu when he started) have been consistently right about low inflation, when nearly everyone else was wrong. This took not only first class analysis, but real courage.

However, he went on to assume that as the market woke up to his truth, gilts would rise endlessly — a wrong view which cost his employers (like many others) a great deal of money. Bootle is an economist, which might explain it. But even smart market men can make similar mistakes.

George Soros, for example, of hedge fund fame: he was triumphantly right about sterling, but expensively wrong about the yen. It is time for some hindsight.

The mistake economists make is to assume that markets are rational, so that prices always reflect an informed view of the future.

In the real world, this is true only in the long run — a delay which could itself be defended as rational, since economic forecasts are unreliable, and only in the long run that we can discover whether they happen to be right. Unfair, but it might just as well be true.

In the short run markets do not respond to expectations about the real world, rationally or otherwise. They are moved by flows of money, and the news they follow is not about the economy, but about market prices. Why do we have a bull market? Because prices are going up. And vice versa. Trading is all about turning points.

In this short-term world, chartists, who analyse market behaviour patterns, are much more likely to be right than economists. Traders, with their market nose, often get it right, too. Small investors hardly ever do.

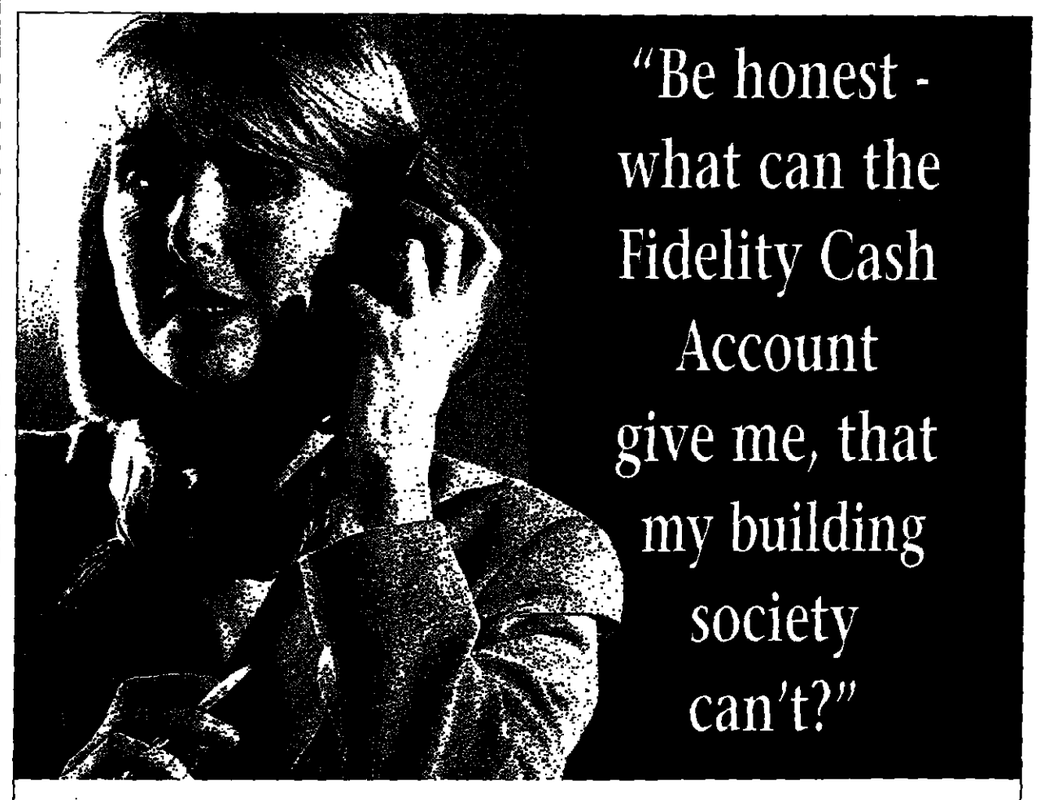
The second ruling error is to forget the nature of speculation. It is a game for two: a speculator and a mug; it is the art not of following the consensus, but of keeping a jump ahead.

Speculators often do "attack" a currency which has official support — the pound when it was in the ERM, or the French *franc fort* (watch for the next episode).

The central banks are the mugs. When George Soros lost so much money going short of the yen, he was acting as a super-speculator: assuming that the Group of Seven would get together to support the dollar. They failed to: splat.

Moral: there is no reward in speculating against a currency which is floating freely. This is putting your shoulder to an open door, a traditional slapstick way to fall flat on your face. Professionals know this, and the result can be paradoxical.

They buy in response to naive scare stories, assuming that the sellers are mugs; so the price goes up, not down, as did the dollar and the pound. Don't bet on it, though. Leave speculation to the professionals; they can afford the losses.



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CLIFFORD HARPER

WHAT TO ASK

When transferring a property, bear the following points in mind:

- What if the new owners are later involved in a divorce? The property will be counted as part of the couple's joint assets and may have to be sold as part of the settlement.
- If the property is in someone else's name, you will not be free to sell it if you want to go into sheltered accommodation.
- You will no longer be able to use your home as security if you want to raise money to maintain the property, or pay for someone to look after you.
- If you live rent-free, the property is likely to be included in the value of the estate for inheritance tax.
- If the new owner dies before you, there could be inheritance complications and you may lose your right to stay in the property.
- Some solicitors suggest schemes for partial disposal of your interest in the property, but treat them with great caution.

When the State becomes a burden on the elderly

Liz Dolan examines the growing problem of paying for long-term residential care for the elderly

The cost of long-term care is now the issue uppermost in the minds of the over-sixties. This week Age Concern, the charity, discussed with ministers its growing concern over pensioners being evicted from residential homes because their income support payments were insufficient to meet the fees.

Other elderly people, facing the sale of their homes to pay for care, evoked the words of John Major at the Conservative Party conference in 1991: "I want to see wealth cascading down the generations." Mr Major said his aim was that as many people as possible should "build up something of their own for their own". But he forgot to add "as long as they intend to remain fit and healthy to the end of their lives".

At that time, after decades of rising home ownership and house prices, millions of ordinary people were still convinced that they would inherit a valuable property when their parents died. Few made the link between the growing property-based wealth of the elderly and the possibility that these assets might have to be used to pay for care if they became too sick, or frail, to look after themselves. That, after all, was the job of the National Health Service.

But, four years later, older people are increasingly being removed from NHS-funded care when their conditions are no longer likely to respond to medical treatment. Or, as Laing & Buisson, the specialist research group, puts it in its latest survey on the care of the elderly: "Free NHS care has become less available as health authorities seek to disengage from long-term care."

Chris Hamnett, Professor of Human Geography at King's College London, said the amount of inherited property had scarcely changed over the past 25 years. While its value has soared from £465 million to £9 billion, the average number of properties inherited each year has remained virtually static, at 145,000. He estimated between 30,000 and 40,000 homes were sold each year to pay for residential or nursing care.

Two years ago, the Government transferred the financial responsibility for all new occupants of residential or nursing homes from the DSS to local authorities, leaving the funding of existing residents with the DSS. Both will take into account the value of property and other assets when deciding whether to provide funding for people in residential or nursing homes. Anyone with assets worth more than £8,000 has to pay for themselves once they are moved out of hospital, or other NHS establishment. Those with between £3,000 and £8,000 are paid for on a sliding scale. Those with less than £3,000, in theory at least, get their fees paid in full.

Private care is estimated to cost between £15,000 and £20,000 a year at the moment, which means that many people are forced to watch assets built up over a number of years disappear almost overnight.

According to Laing & Buisson, nursing home fees average £333 a week in single rooms, or £313 for shared accommodation. Residential fees average £239, or £224 on the same basis.

Fees rose by an average of just 2.8 per cent for private nursing homes, or 3.1 per cent for residential homes last year. For the third year running, nursing home fees rose more slowly than the average earnings index.

HOW TO COPE WITH THE CRIPPLING COSTS OF LONG-TERM CARE

☐ Insurance for long-term care

Long-term care (LTC) insurance was unknown in the United Kingdom market until four years ago. Commercial Union and Eagle Star were two of the first companies to launch such policies.

It has yet to take off in a big way, although there has been a growth of interest during the past year or so. PPP Lifetime (01789 415151), a specialist subsidiary of the private medical insurer, did not begin selling policies in earnest until last year, but is now the market leader.

Policyholders with PPP Lifetime pay a minimum £30 a month, or £300 a year, in regular premiums. The minimum single premium is £2,500, or £1,000 to top up regular premiums. Benefits range between £300 and £3,000 per month.

"These policies are not for everyone," said Peter Gatenby, appointed actuary. "Different solutions suit different people."

The average policyholder is 67. A 65-year-old man pays £70 a month for £12,000 annual cover, rising 5 per cent a year. PPP is only aiming at the 60-75 age group at the moment.

There is very little interest in these policies among younger people, except perhaps to fund cover for their parents, Mr Gatenby added.

In its submission to the Health Select Committee inquiry, PPP called for tougher regulation of the LTC insurance market. Mr Gatenby said: "These products are not regulated because there is no investment element. But, unlike cheaper protection insurance, they do involve fairly large premiums.

"The average single premiums are £10,000. We're often approached by intermediaries who have been thrown out of the regulated end of the industry, or don't want to be regulated. They're very keen to do business. We won't deal with them, but others may."

Other companies with a toe in this area include Hambro Assured (01772 840000), MGI Prime Health (01483 440550), Clerical Medical and Pearl, although not all offer straight LTC cover. Bupa has a similar policy linked to permanent health insurance. Scottish Amicable's European arm, based in Dublin, also sells LTC insurance.

☐ Asset transfers to avoid fees

Age Concern reports a sharp increase in inquiries from older peple about how they can transfer their assets to relatives to avoid having to use them to pay care home fees if the need arises. This is a thorny subject. Anyone who knowingly gives away assets, or sells them at less than their market value, in order to qualify for benefit may be considered guilty of "deliberate deprivation".

If the assets were transferred knowingly within six months of going into a home, or while already in a home, the authority has the power to recover any money it pays out from the recipient. If the transfer was made longer than six months previously, the donor may be liable instead.

Age Concern publishes a a number of factsheets on long-term care, including *Finding Residential and Nursing Home Accommodation* and *Local Authority Charging Procedures for Residential and Nursing Home Care* and *Preserved Rights to Income Support for Residential and Nursing Homes*. For free copies, send an SAE to Fact Sheets, Age Concern England, Astral House, 1268 London Road, London SW16 4ER.

The Caring in a Crisis book series, also published by Age Concern, is for family and friends of an older person. *Finding and Paying For Residential Care* is particularly recommended. At £5.95, it is available from most bookshops or postage-free from Age Concern.

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Time Ken and Eddie made up



COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH
Personal Finance Editor

Savers are hoping that the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England will heed the psychiatrists who, this week, suggested that infidelity need not be a threat to a relationship.

Although Kenneth Clarke may seem to have broken faith with the low-inflation ideal, those who want more from their savings would like to see him mend his rift with Bank boss Eddie George. Once the pair can agree to disagree but disagree to part, the next step in the reconciliation would be a joint decision to raise base rates, obliging building societies to improve their offers.

However, the response from the societies may not be as heartwarming as the Eddie and Ken rapprochement. Disappointed by the performance of shares in 1994, many investors have been shunning Peps and unit trusts in favour of the safety of the postal account.

In addition, any society seen as a likely takeover target is seeing speculative cash pouring in.

These good inflows mean that, if a rate rise comes, societies will feel disinclined to be generous. As one senior figure commented yesterday, "We're getting plenty of money in at 5.25 per cent. This means that if base rates go up by 0.5 per cent, we'll put up investors' rates by, at most, 0.2 per cent."

However, such parsimony may be shortlived. Unit trust groups launching Corporate Bond Peps in the summer plan to offer yields of 8.5 per cent or more. Some, it is rumoured have double-figure yields in mind. These new Peps will be aimed at building society customers who may not always be made aware of the risk involved in bond investment. Or, of the different ways of calculating the yield (the total return on the investment). For example, as we report on page 31, the yield on another type of fixed-interest stock, a gilt, can be shown as 14.15 per cent, or as 6.95 per cent, depending on who is doing the sums.

The Association of Unit Trust and Investment Funds is now seeking to curb the more exuberant marketing efforts of their members. Meanwhile the societies cannot afford to be complacent.

Happy in defeat

THE aftermath of the court battle between the Independent Financial Advisers Association and the Securities and Investments Board was somewhat bizarre. The advisers professed themselves "delighted" with the verdict in the personal pension judicial review, although it had gone against them. They had found consolation in one small concession: that advisers would not be required, while contacting clients who had been sold personal pensions, to take any step which would invaldiate their professional indemnity insurance.

However, they somehow failed to mention the procedures put in place last year to ensure that a firm's cover would not be jeopardised while the advice given was examined.

But the advisers' flurry of self congratulation could not conceal the identity of the true victors in the case, the tens of thousands of people who were persuaded to take out unsuitable personal pensions.

The ruling means that they are closer to compensation. But if the case had gone in favour of the advisers, the onus would have been on these clients to lodge complaints, so postponing their recompense until the next century.

Now we are nearer to resolving what the judge called without any exaggeration a "problem of exceptional magnitude".

Shares in the ascendant

A rally in stock prices does not mean a lack of risk. **Caroline Merrell** reports



Favoured sectors include export-oriented manufacturers

THE UK stock market this week hit its highest level for 14 months. Many analysts believe that this could be the start of a sustained rally in UK shares and could be a good moment to invest for the medium to long term.

Over the past few months, UK companies have been announcing higher than expected profits and have been increasing their dividends substantially.

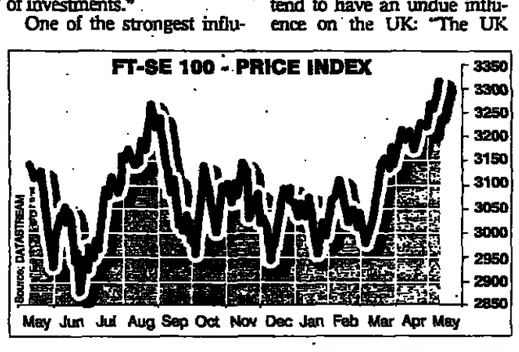
However, there are some risks — all analysts pointed out that any continued weakness in the pound could be detrimental, and most believe that interest rates and inflation will rise again slightly but will then level out.

The favoured sectors of the market include export-oriented manufacturers, blue chips and consumer companies.

UK companies which sell products predominantly in this country may not yet have felt the same sort of recovery. Analysts believe that the continued depression in the housing market is still holding back the return of the "feel-good" factor.

Barry Wolff, investment director at Mercury, said: "The important thing is that interest rates and inflation are not going to take off. The UK investor should continue to buy shares in blue chip companies, although there is strengthening in the middle-sized and smaller companies. In this market, don't take any big bets. It is best to have a pretty well balanced portfolio of investments."

One of the strongest influences on the high levels reached by the UK stock market this week was the US market which also hit record highs. Jeremy Tigue, Foreign & Colonial investment director, said the US market did tend to have an undue influence on the UK: "The UK market is still below its peak in Febuary 1994. But earnings have been better than expected and dividend growth has been better. This may be the prelude to some kind of takeover activity. We predicted that the UK stock market would hit 3,500 by the end of the year. We are already more than half way there."



He also thought the threat felt by the City because of the possibility of the election of a Labour Government had receded. "The Labour Party is perceived as being a lot more business friendly." He said there was still some risk for those contemplating putting their money into the market. "There may be a massive increase in interest rates."

Peter Tonkin, an investment specialist at Towry Law, the independent financial adviser, echoed the view. "We see the market being export and manufacturing led. The housing market is still depressed but there may be some recovery in that sector if there are tax cuts." He believes interest rates have reached a plateau.

Andrew Spencer, investment director at Flemings Investment Management, said: "We are getting much higher growth in dividends than anticipated. Corporation UK is the healthiest it has been for the last ten to 12 years. A lot of companies are cash rich, which may lead them to start spending on new plants and machinery." He said much of the recovery in share prices so far had been in companies with strong exports. "The value may now lie in general manufacturing companies."

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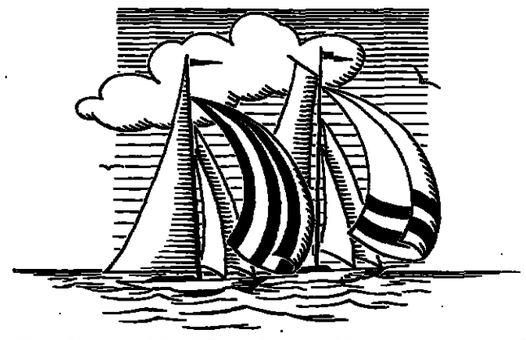
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Managing your money for the longer term

Wise buys to beat inflation

Three sectors that can help savers to keep pace. Caroline Merrell reports


IMAGE BANK

Inflation has gradually been edging up over the past two years. It is now more than double its lowest point in June 1992. Last week's shock decision by the Chancellor not to put up interest rates immediately, coupled with the possibility of the election of a high-spending Labour government, is likely to increase the rate further.

According to economists, the slight fall in the inflation rate seen this week is only temporary, and it will begin to rise again in the second half of this year.

This may be the moment for private investors to protect some of their money against the ravages of inflation.

There are basically three ways. The first is to buy index-linked National Savings certificates, the second is to buy index-linked government securities and the third is to put money into a building society account that offers an interest rate linked to RPI.

Index-linked National Savings were first introduced by the Government 20 years ago in the mid-Seventies when inflation was running at 26 per cent. The idea was to protect savings, particularly those of old people, against inflation. Investors were paid a rate that was a few per cent above the rise in the the retail price index and were given a bonus if they held the bond for five years or more. Interest rolled up tax free. Initially, these National Savings products were only open to retired people, but now they are available to everyone.

Eight index-linked National Savings products have been sold since the introduction of the concept in 1975, and there is currently about £8.3 billion of the public's money invested.

The eighth index-linked issue, which is available for investors, offers an interest rate which is 3 per cent above the inflation rate. However, this rate is staggered over five years, starting at 1.25 per cent in the first year and rising to 6.07 per cent in the final year. The rate is currently 6.5 per cent.

Anyone who cashes in their certificates in the first year will not benefit from the interest or the index-linking, unless the money was previously invested in National Savings. Anyone who chooses to invest in National Savings should note the maturity date of their certificates — the interest rate beyond maturity is only 0.5 per cent above the inflation rate. Many people are earning this derisory rate on their savings, simply because they are not aware of the need to reinvest to get a better rate when their certificates mature. One hundred pounds invested in the first index-linked product, the Retirement Issue Certificates, sold in 1975 would now be worth £563, while £100 invested three years ago in the fifth issue certificates would now be worth £110. These certificates pay a rate that is 4.5 per cent above inflation for five years. Indexation is accredited to accounts on a monthly basis at a level equivalent to the RPI of two months previously.

Index-linked gilts have some of the same characteristics of National Savings. However, they are traded on the stock market and offer the possibility of capital growth, or loss, if they are sold before they mature. If investors hold an index-linked gilt to its maturity date, the amount of money they will get back will be equal to the amount they invested plus indexation. The income the gilt pays is also index-linked. It is worth noting that the indexation is accredited eight months in arrears. Henderson Crothswaite, the broker, recommends the Treasury 2 per cent 2006 index-linked because it has the highest redemption yield out of the index linked gilts at 2.88 per cent.

The index-linked account from Britannia Building Society also protect against inflation. The account, launched when inflation was at its lowest point, is a 90-day account that pays an interest rate of 2.5 per cent above RPI. Unlike National Savings, the interest rate is not staggered, but neither is it tax free.



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WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Small investors 'excluded' from society merger benefits

From Mr John Richards

Sir, I write to highlight the way in which the small investor is being excluded from the benefits of the imminent building society takeovers and mergers.

Is it not unfair that long-term investors who happened not to have had £100 deposited on a particular date should receive almost nothing? To make a substantial payout solely to investors who happened to have over £100 invested on that day sacrifices fairness for expediency. "The rich get richer and the poor poorer."

What logic is it that determines that an investor of two years' standing with £100 invested is so richly rewarded but an investor of 20 years' standing with £99 invested is excluded?

Given that the payments to be made reflect asset values that have been created over long periods of time by (principally) small investors, do the societies not have a moral obligation to distribute the benefits as widely as possible?

Surely a more equitable way of determining beneficiaries is to reward loyalty in addition to how much an investor had deposited on any particular day. A more appropriate definition of entitlement would perhaps be: "Any investor having at least £100 deposited or who has been a member continuously for not less than ten years."

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RICHARDS,
34 Padwell Road,
Southampton,
Hampshire.

Employers should help to cover the costs of mis-sold pension policies

From Mr Stephen Bragg

Sir, In the letter you published on May 6, N. A. Warren asks where the compensation for those who were wrongly advised to leave their employers' pension schemes should come from. Should not part of it come from the employers themselves and their in-house pension schemes?

Both of these would otherwise undeservedly benefit by not having to support the better pensions that would have to be paid out to the transferring employees had they remained in the schemes.

If the insurance companies wrongly accepted premiums to provide inferior levels of pension, then it is surely equitable that they should repay these in full, with interest. If these repayments were then used to fund retrospectively an employee's contributions to his employer's scheme, and if the employer added the contribution he would have paid had the employee remained in the scheme, the status quo should be restored.

The loss to the insurance company would then be limited to the costs of commission and administration of the mis-sold policies.

Mr Warren and his cautious investor colleagues would not be called on to fund the windfall gains that would have been made by employers and their in-house pension schemes as the result of employees misguidedly transferring out of them.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN BRAGG,
22 Brookside,
Cambridge.

Five weeks to clear a cheque

From Mr Andrew Podhalicz

Sir, The British lead consultant of an African project was paid in dollars. The exchange-rate risk was passed down to sub-consultants and their self-employed personnel. As a result a US dollar cheque drawn on an account with Barclays Business Centre in Basingstoke was paid into an account with Barclays Business Centre in Swindon. The transaction took five weeks, 24 days expiring between when it was debited to the drawer's account and credited to the payee's. A £16 commission was charged, the conversion rate was two cents worse than in *The Times* and Barclays gained £40 interest.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW PODHALICZ,
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Campaign for cash: President-elect Chirac will turn to the bond markets to help to deliver election promises

When political words are world-class bonds

Election promises send global leaders scurrying to the gilts market, writes Robert Miller

Jacques Chirac, the newly elected President of France, faces a problem common to politicians the world over: how to pay for the election promises he made during his campaign. Like countless others, he will turn to the bond market. But he may find his wings have been clipped. President-elect Chirac's priority is to reduce unemployment, for which he will need considerable sums of money. European directives say, however, that member governments are allowed to borrow only so much. That said, bond market fears that President-elect Chirac may sail close to, or even past, those limits and be called to book are probably unfounded.

If carefully managed, government bonds, or gilts as they are more commonly called in the UK, provide benefits for both governments and investors. The former can raise money to pay for their promises from institutions, which are generally guardians for pension funds or unit trust managers, and from the public direct. The reward for investors who support the various government bond issues is to be paid a guaranteed annual rate of interest, underwritten by that particular country. Under most circumstances, they will also get back their capital when an issue matures.

Bonds are often associated with income seekers. The guaranteed nature of the annual interest seems more attractive than the vagaries of the equity market, where companies frequently cut their dividend payments to shareholders. But serious bond investors who want to spread their risk must use a unit trust. If you had backed one of the 53 unit trusts in the UK Gilt & Fixed Interest category (there are another 50 trusts in the international sector), the statistics show that you would have fared better than if you had gone for a purely equity-based trust. The Micropal statistics for the year to May reveal that the average loss of UK Bond funds was limited to £1.89 for every £100 invested, while their international counterparts lost £3.50 for every £100. The Micropal benchmark of all unit trusts shows an average loss of £6.70. In the UK, M&G topped the one-year performance tables with two of its funds and none of the top ten lost money. In the international sector, the top six all made money. For those who compromised and opted for a UK balanced fund — a portfolio split between bonds and equities — the average loss for the year was £4 per £100.

The top 14 countries had a bond market value at the end of April of $5,754 billion

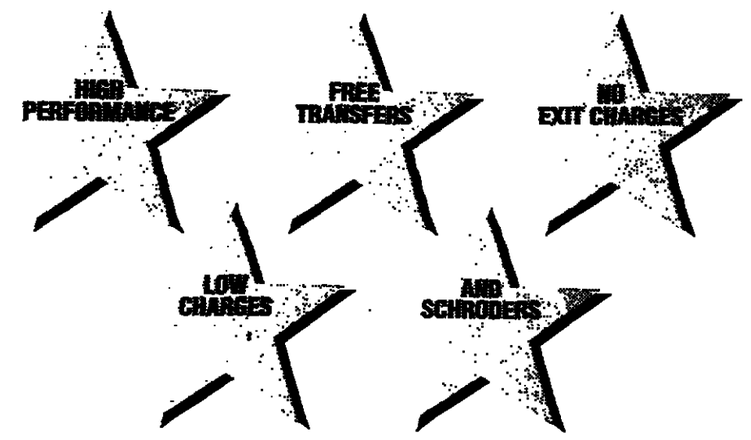
The top 14 countries listed in the Salomon Brothers World Government Bond Index had a market value at the end of April of $5,754 billion. Not surprisingly, the US and Japan lead the parade, with bonds in issue valued at $1,948 billion and $1,315 billion respectively. At $300 billion, the UK is ranked fifth behind Germany and France. But beneath the enormous international government debt market are a number of other bond issues. Local authorities issue them, as do large companies with their corporate bonds and even building societies with their permanent interest bearing shares. Corporate bonds are in the spotlight now as the Inland Revenue yesterday published its draft regulations for the new Corporate Bond personal equity plans. But, as Theodora Zemek, head of M&G's fixed-interest desk, which oversees the investment of £1 billion, says, wrapping a corporate bond in a Pep does not guarantee success any more than backing government bonds does. The strategy to adopt towards bonds in general is to look at how the credit rating agencies, such as Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service, rank them, and see how the prospective yield stacks up. Even if you get the research right, you can still be caught out by trading conditions on world markets. In domestic and European terms, Ms Zemek's list of "high-grade borrowers" is headed by government bonds, British Telecom and Marks & Spencer. At double A, as opposed to triple A rating, are Barclays Bank, British Gas and Anglia Water. At single A are Enterprise Oil, Bass and British Aerospace.

The security of a particular bond is of the utmost importance and one of the fears expressed by Ms Zemek and other Pep managers is that there are too few quality corporate bonds in the market.

Yield (see Trust Watch, below) has become a live issue. Ms Zemek gives a warning that headline yield figures can mislead. The yield on a unit trust bond fund is calculated by taking the average rate of interest paid on each bond and dividing it by the average price at which the bond trades at in the market. Ms Zemek takes the example of the UK gilt 15.25 per cent 1996. This is a gilt that for every £100 of maturity value pays 15.25 per cent. This week it was trading at about 107.75p. In the unit trust market, using the standard calculation, the yield is 14.15 per cent, but the gilt market takes a different view. It says the proper yield is 6.95 per cent. So which is the more accurate? The market view prevails, says Ms Zemek.

And what are the prospects for bonds over the next 12 months? Ms Zemek concludes: "In the UK, market concerns centre on political worries and that a future Labour government could increase its borrowing *à la* Chirac. Worldwide, bonds in general should thrive as governments continue to combat inflation and create the ideal trading environment."

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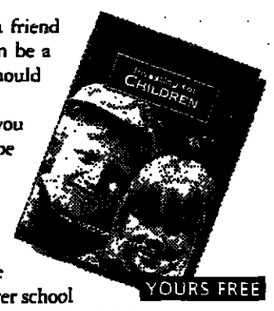
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AAF 490

PRUDENTIAL

TRUST WATCH

UNIT trust investors will soon be in a better position to judge what return they can expect from their bond and income funds under new rules being drafted by the Association of Unit Trusts and Investments Funds.

The association has two working parties addressing the issues of how to show unit trust investors what their fund will pay out in income, after charges, and whether the trust they have invested in can truly be classed as an income fund. To ensure fair play, the association has called in specialists from City University's Business School.

Philip Warland, director-general of the association, said this week: "We want our members to calculate yields not on some basis that suits the market but rather by what it tells investors. We want them to be told what they will actually receive."

With the new Corporate Bond Peps due for a summer launch, the association wants to introduce clearer guidelines on how Pep managers promote their wares. Mr Warland said: "Unit trust managers should explain clearly where expenses incurred in running a trust are charged to capital rather than income."

The association's working party also wants to regrade trusts classified under the income heading. It wants true income funds to produce an income yield at least 10 per cent higher than that produced by the FT-SE All Share Index, currently yielding about 4 per cent. Trusts that do not match up to the new criteria would have to be reclassified.

ROBERT MILLER

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ROUTE TO A REBATE

Tax year	LEL £	UEL £	Employer rebate %	Employee rebate %	Tax relief %	Incentive rebate %	Total rebate %
87/88	2028	15340	4.1	2.15	0.80	2.0	9.05
88/89	2132	15860	3.8	2.0	0.67	2.0	8.47
89/90	2236	16900	3.8	2.0	0.67	2.0	8.47
90/91	2392	18200	3.8	2.0	0.67	2.0	8.47
91/92	2704	20280	3.8	2.0	0.67	2.0	8.47
92/93	2808	21060	3.8	2.0	0.67	*	5.47/8.47
93/94	2912	21840	3.0	1.8	0.67	*	5.47/8.47
94/95	2964	22360	3.0	1.8	0.67	*	5.47/8.47

* — If 30 years of age or older an incentive of 1% is payable, otherwise no incentive is payable.

To be or not to be a member of Serps

A fresh complication has arisen in the tangled personal pensions affair: a strange case of pension plan holders who mistakenly thought that they had left the additional state earnings related pension scheme (Serps) but who were never removed from the scheme and have, as a result, missed out on the government inducement.

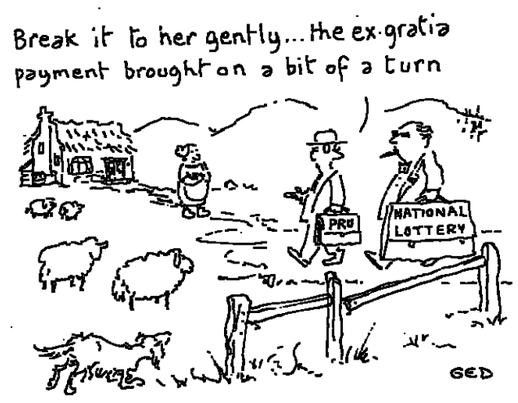
Those who move out of Serps into a personal pension receive from the State a payment made up of a National Insurance rebate, with tax relief and a small additional incentive. But this week, as revealed in *The Times*, it has emerged that at least 25,000 customers of Prudential, the largest pension provider, have not received this sweetener because they were not given the correct form. They have remained unwitting members of Serps, whose benefits are being further reduced in the Pensions Bill going through Parliament. For those who mistakenly believed that they were opting out of Serps at the first possible opportunity in 1988, the loss, to date, could be as much as £10,500.

The Prudential is attempting to discover how many people are affected, promising that it will not only restore lost benefits but also make ex-gratia payments. Meanwhile, the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, is looking into the whole subject. The body's current investigation into personal pension mis-selling extends to Serps, examining cases where people may have been improperly advised to leave the state scheme, either because they were too old to make switching worthwhile, or earned too little.

At the same time, the Personal Investment Authority, which regulates insurance companies, cannot say whether the pension plan customers of other insurance companies have been denied their rebates but it pledges that, if any such instances came to light, they would be investigated.

Few of the five million employees who have left Serps will have checked whether they are getting the correct amount of rebate. Among them are three million people who are not making their own contributions to supplement the rebate. Although they should all be receiving their rebates, there is no certainty that the amounts given will be correct. To find out whether your rebate is correct, follow our guide.

ANNE ASHWORTH



Check-up on opt-out

ANYONE who opts out of Serps should take the time to check whether the rebates credited to them are correct (Stewart Pike writes).

The sums are not as complicated as they seem, so long as you start with an understanding of how the rebates work. The contribution made by the Department of Social Security to your personal pension is made up of the three elements outlined below:

☐ The rebate of employer's and employee's National Insurance (NI) contributions.

☐ Basic rate income tax relief on the employee portion of the rebate.

☐ The incentive rebate, or "sweetener".

The contribution payments that appear on statements are based on the "band" earnings. These are earnings between the lower earnings limit (LEL) at which NI becomes payable and the upper earnings limit (UEL). You pay no NI on income above this. The tables show the different LELs and UELs that have applied since it became possible to opt out of Serps in 1988.

The table below gives an example of how the rebates are calculated, using the percentages laid down by the DSS.

The LEL and UEL are revised each tax year and the rebate percentage is revised every five years. Some pension companies provide a breakdown of the component parts that make up the total contribution. Other companies only give you the total contribution credited to the pension. The more information supplied on the statement, the easier it is to check the figures.

If you should find any errors in your contributions, contact your pension company or the DHSS at Newcastle on 0191 261 2341, quoting your NI number.

SIZE OF THE REBATE

The rebate for a person earning £22,000 in 1991-92:

Calculate band earnings	UEL - LEL 20,280 - 2704 = £17,576
Employer rebate	band earning x 3.8% 17,576 x 3.8% = £667.89
Employee rebate	band earnings x 2.0% 17,576 x 2.0% = £351.52
Tax relief	band earnings x 0.67% 17,576 x 0.67% = £117.76
Incentive rebate	band earnings x 2.0% 17,576 x 2.0% = £351.52

Total contribution for year 91/92: £1,488.69 (8.47% of band earnings)

Advisers urge Lilley to take softer line

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, is coming under pressure from his advisers to withdraw proposals that would restrict income support payments to cover mortgage interest for vulnerable groups of borrowers. These include the divorced or separated, single parents and carers.

The Social Security Advisory Committee (SSAC) is expected to recommend that single parents and carers be exempted altogether from the restrictions. It will also advise Mr Lilley to keep rules that allow those divorced or separated, mainly women, to claim income support for business loans or other loans secured on their property while they were married. Many people borrowed against the security of their homes in the 1980s, when house prices were rising, then divorced or separated, leaving one partner with a large debt. Mr Lilley wants to abolish help for these people.

He will also be urged to delay his plans to pay no income support for the first two months to existing borrowers who lose their jobs or fall ill after the beginning of October.

The SSAC is understood to be concerned that private insurance policies intended to replace income support do not pay out for at least two months after a claim. This would leave even insured borrowers without cover for mortgage payments. Insurers say they will amend the terms of their policies to fit in with the new regulations but cannot do much until it becomes clear what these are.

The SSAC is expected to publish its recommendations next week. It received nearly 150 responses from lenders, insurers and housing advisers to the Government's proposals. Most were fiercely critical of the plans, designed to cut the £1.1 billion bill for mortgage interest payments. The Council of Mortgage Lenders has repeatedly given warning that the restriction of state help for out-of-work or sick borrowers will lead to more repossessions and arrears.

Anyone taking out a loan after October 2 will get no income support for mortgage payments for nine months under Mr Lilley's proposals. Existing borrowers will get no help for two months and only 50 per cent of their interest paid for a further four months.

The Government believes that borrowers should take out their own mortgage payment protection insurance instead of relying on the State. But many borrowers, including the self-employed, the unemployed and casual workers will be excluded because they are considered high risk. Single parents and carers, as well as those divorced or separated, would find it difficult or impossible to get cover.

SARA MCCONNELL

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Advisers urge Lilley to take softer line

SARA McC…

THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Heavy reading to lighten your tax

The 1995-96 edition of the Allied Dunbar *Tax Handbook*, combines expert guidance and easy-reference.

Written by Anthony Foreman, a tax partner with Pannell Kerr Forster, the chartered accountant, the 600-page book includes tables and diagrams to illustrate various ways of reducing your tax bill.

The book has 26 chapters, ranging from the taxation of employees and the self-employed, to value-added tax and stamp duty. There are two chapters specifically focusing on opportunities to pay less tax.

One chapter concentrates on the anti-avoidance legislation, while another focuses on the organisation of the Inland Revenue. The third edition of this hardback book includes a revised index. Published by Pearson Professional, it costs £21 and is available at most bookshops.

☐ **Any customers with the Northern Rock Building Society who have £100 or less in their accounts can expect to receive something in the post. The building society is writing to inform savers that it is abolishing discontinued and obsolete accounts to cut operating costs, and improve interest rates. From July 1, interest will no longer be paid on accounts with a balance of less than £50 and there will be a £3 quarterly charge on investment accounts with balances of less than £50 for six consecutive days or more. Charges will not apply to current account holders or anyone under the age of 22. As a further incentive for savers to raise their balances, they must have at least £100 invested to be eligible to vote on society matters. A special helpline has been set up on 0191 279 4004.**

☐ The Consumers' Association's *Which? Way to Save and Invest* (£13.99) sets out the principles of an investment. The book explains investment strategy, choices, tax, and investor protection, while shares, unit trusts, life insurance, annuities and the pros and cons of overseas investment are also looked at.

☐ *Which? Way to Save Tax 1995* (also £13.99), in the same series, helps you to work out your tax bill, describing tax-free income, outgoings that qualify for tax relief and any allowances that you might be entitled to. Tel: 0800 252 100.

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	1st Class Acc	Postal	£1,000	6.20	Yly
Skipton BS 01756 700511	3 High Street	Instant	£2,000	6.25	Yly
B&W Asset 0800 303330	Instant Acc	Postal	£10,000	6.45	Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Go Direct	Instant	£20,000	6.75	Yly

FIXED RATES	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	Fixed Rate Bond	31.5.99	£5,000	8.50	F/Yly
Woolwich BS 0800 400900	2 Year Fixed	2yr bond	£500	8.00	F/Yly
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500	Investmnt Certs	5yr bond	£1,000	8.60	F/Yly
Chelsea BS 0800 272505	3 Year Fixed	1.9.98	£5,000	8.25	F/Yly

TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500		5 year	£6,300	8.50	F/Yly
Hinckley & Rugby BS 0800 774499		5 year	£3,000 A	7.65	Yly
Market Harborough BS 01858 463244		5 year	£9,000	7.75	Yly
Holmesdale BS 01737 245716		5 year	£500	7.50	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming S&P 0800 282101	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.60%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 0800 161616	MasterCard	1.14%	14.50%	Nil C
Alliance & Leicester 0500 900250	Visa	1.375%	18.90%	£10 E

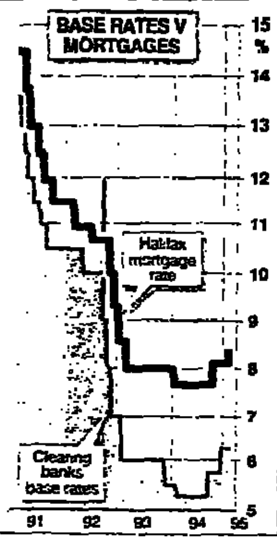
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

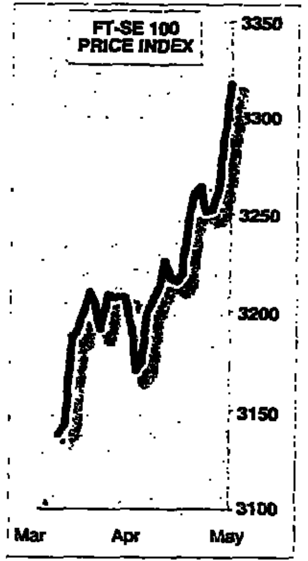
	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Clydesdale Bank 0141 223 2216	16.20%	£113.94	£103.33
Midland Bank 0800 180180	15.40%	£116.54	£103.14
N&P BS 0800 808080	15.50%	£118.22	£103.29
Abbey National 01908 680140	16.9%	£117.41	£105.05

Nb. A - Feeder account required. In the interest paid columns, C = no interest free period D = annual fee rebated £1.5K+ charged per annum E = Annual fee waived for 1st year for new accounts F = fixed rate (all other rates are variable); OM denotes interest paid on maturity

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 665)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c¹	2.00	1.50	1.20	10-10,000		01416494555
Investment A/c* a	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-500	1mth	01416494555
Income Bond* a	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3mth	01253766151
First Opt Bond a	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-250,000		01418362558
42nd Issue Cert† a	5.85			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Children's Bond†	7.86			25-1,000	1mth	01418362635
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					
Capital Bond a	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8day	01418362603
8th Index Linked† a	3.00			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Pensnrs Bond S2 a	7.50	5.63	4.50	500-20,000 a	60day	01253766151

¹ First £70 (£140 jt a/c) int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ‡ Additional hldgs up to £20 000 for reinvested proceeds. † Tax free. *Rates gross and are Guaranteed when held for 5 years

10.3% net bonus for £20,000 – £40,000 in addition to £1 holdings* Taxable but cred in full

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Equit Life..............Level	£10,599	£11,645	£12,984
Stndrd Life ....Level	£10,496	£11,552	£12,932
Royal Life..............Level	£10,414	£11,539	£13,067
MGM Asrnce.........Level	£10,659	£11,715	£13,161
Generali ....Level	£10,692	£11,706	£13,032

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Nrch Union............Level	£9,922	£10,641	£11,714
Royal Life..............Level	£9,688	£10,511	£11,731
Equit Life..............Level	£9,554	£10,375	£11,507
Generali ....Level	£9,805	£10,636	£11,792
MGM Asrnce.........Level	£9,927	£10,670	£11,779

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 / Female: Age 55	Age 65 / Age 60	Age 70 / Age 65
Nrwch Uni ....Level	£9,606	£10,143	£10,924
Equit Life..............Level	£9,162	£9,7870	£10,644
Royal Life..............Level	£9,238	£9,8680	£10,773
MGM Asrnce.........Level	£9,621	£10,226	£11,095
Generali ....Level	£9,463	£10,067	£10,906

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 375 1175)

Compiled by: Morag Preston

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME
Rates as at May 10 1995

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.50
	5,000	AIG Life	5.80
	50,000	AIG Life	5.95
	100,000	AIG Life	6.00
2 Years			
	3,000	Gan Life	5.20
	5,000	AIG Life	6.30
	50,000	AIG Life	6.35
	100,000	AIG Life	6.40
3 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.70
	3,000	Eurolife	6.70
	5,000	Eurolife	6.80
	10,000	Eurolife	6.90
	25,000	Eurolife	7.00
4 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	6.40
	50,000	GAN Life	6.50
5 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	6.50
	3,000	Eurolife	7.20
	5,000	Eurolife	7.30
	10,000	Eurolife	7.40
	25,000	Eurolife	7.50

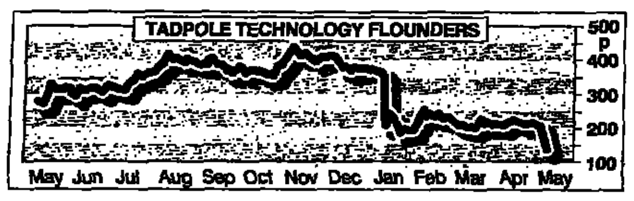
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 01225 483638. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	91.00	10.292	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	114.25	10.170	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	127.00	10.223	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	128.75	10.374	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	124.50	10.435	100.42	1,000
Cheltenham & Glos	11.750%	118.75	9.884	100.96	50,000
Coventry	12.125%	116.75	10.364	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	105.75	11.104	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	89.50	9.770	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	120.25	9.834	100.28	50,000
Leeds Permanent	13.625%	137.50	9.894	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	128.75	10.380	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	104.375	10.297	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	123.75	10.186	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	124.00	10.175	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	123.25	10.439	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
First National	9.6750%	100.50	100.00	1,000
Cheshire	9.50156%	103.00	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent Interest-bearing shares
Source. ABN AMRO Hoare Govett - 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Natnl & Provincial 01274 733444	2.95	neg	90	5.5% discount for 12 months
Britannia 0800 526350	2.95	neg	80	5.49% discount for 12 months
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	2.49	to £150k	90	6.05% discount to 1.7.96
Banks				
Abbey National 0800 555100	2.99	neg	75	5.35% discount to 30.6.96
Lloyds Local branch	3.60	£60k+	60	4.75% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	1.00	to £100k	95	7.45%dsc-6m 2%d-6m,.5%d-12m
Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499	1.25	to £150k	70	7.14% disc-9mns
Yorkshire 0800 378 836	1.44	£25-£150k	95	7% disc-6 mnths 3% disc-6 mnths
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	20-145k	95	7.51%dsc-1.1.96 3% dsc-1.7.96
Ulster Bank 0800 262062	1.39	£10k+	95	7.00% discount to 1.11.95

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Hinckley&Rugby 0455 251 234	1.25	to 150k	70	7.14% discount for 9 mnths
Brad & Bingley 0800 252 993	3.15	£30k+	75	5.30% discount for 12 mnths
Skipton 0800 590545	2.29	to £150k	95	6% disc 5 mnths 1.75% disc 1 year
Banks				
Abbey National 0131 556 8555	3.15	neg	75	5.19% discount to 30.6.96
Lloyds Local Branch	3.60	£60K+	95	4.75% for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS. 0171 538 8800				
Balanced	468.40	496.20	+5.80	...
UK Equity	590.50	624.90	+6.10	...
Property	492.30	520.90	+0.50	...
Fixed Interest	327.90	347.00	+9.00	...
Money	254.30	269.20	+0.10	...
International	388.20	410.80	+7.20	...
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	278.70	293.40	+0.10	...
-do- Acc	526.30	554.10	+0.30	...
Equity Fd Inc	177.90	187.30	+2.60	0.0
-do- Acc	237.30	249.70	+3.50	0.0
Selective Fd	507.00	533.70	+5.90	0.0
Money Fd	384.10	404.40	+0.30	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	410.20	431.80	...	...
Equity Ser 4	224.70	236.60	+2.60	...
Man Ser 4	679.30	715.10	+8.30	0.0
Conv Ser 4	333.60	351.20	-0.30	...
Money Ser 4	333.30	350.90	-0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	352.60	371.20	+2.20	0.0
American Ser 4	503.20	529.70	+14.20	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	696.00	732.70	-7.10	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	218.10	229.60	-3.90	0.0
Japan Ser 4	343.10	361.20	-5.20	0.0
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£15.76	£16.58	-16.30	..
European Fd Acc	390.20	410.70	-10.80	..
Fixed Int Acc	516.10	543.20	+4.90	..
Gtd Money Acc	339.60	357.40	+0.20	..
Intl Managed Acc	614.90	647.20	+8.00	..
Int Fxd Int Acc	341.80	359.70	-5.70	..
Japan Fund	250.80	264.00	-8.70	..
N American Acc	331.80	349.20	+7.40	..
Prop Fd Acc	444.80	468.10	-1.00	..
Multiple Inv Acc	£10.46	£11.01	-12.90	..
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	378.60	398.60	+0.30	...
Equity Acc	£14.44	£15.20	+17.50	...
Property Acc	587.40	618.40	+0.90	...
Far East Acc	310.70	327.10	+7.60	...
Managed Capital	536.60	564.90	+6.10	...
-do- Acc	£11.07	£11.65	-12.80	...
Overseas Acc	972.50	£10.23	-14.90	...
Gilt Edged Acc	490.50	516.40	+3.40	...
Amer Equity Acc	831.30	875.10	-18.80	...
Amer Man Acc	352.30	370.80	+8.30	...
Amer Prop Acc	117.40	123.60	+3.70	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	161.20	169.60	+0.70	...
Balced Ser 6	737.30	776.10	+11.80	...
Opportunity Ser 6	168.10	176.90	+2.50	...
Distribution Ser 6	99.60	104.80	+1.10	7.00
UK Equities Ser 6	£10.22	£10.76	+16.30	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	£10.79	£11.36	+18.70	...
North Amer Ser 6	471.60	496.60	+18.70	...
Far East Ser 6	575.70	606.00	+8.80	...
Europe Ser 6	394.30	415.00	+2.60	...
Intnl Ser 6	583.30	614.00	+12.90	...
Property Ser 6	557.10	586.40	...	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	441.10	467.40	+2.10	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec Se	185.90	195.60	-2.60	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	301.00	316.80	+0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	866.30	911.90	-10.80	...
-do- Initial	563.90	593.60	+7.00	...
Gilt Edged Acc	389.60	410.20	+3.40	...
-do- Initial	255.90	269.40	+2.20	...
International Acc	403.00	424.30	+4.10	...
-do- Initial	263.00	276.90	+2.70	...
Managed Acc	533.40	561.50	+5.70	...
-do- Initial	349.30	367.70	+3.70	...
Money Acc	295.60	311.20	+0.20	...
Property Acc	306.50	322.70	+0.30	...
-do- Initial	199.50	210.00	...	...
Americas Acc	289.50	304.80	+9.50	...
Australia Acc	209.90	221.00	+0.60	...
Financial Acc	344.30	362.40	+5.40	...
500 Accum	443.70	467.10	+6.70	...
Japan Genl Acc	315.40	332.00	-12.00	...
Income Acc	529.60	557.50	+8.60	...
Leisure Acc	241.40	254.20	+2.70	...
Special Sits Acc	240.20	252.90	+3.10	...
Univ Tech Acc	160.70	169.20	+0.60	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834000				
The Managed Fd	833.51	833.51	+13.17	...
Income Fund	794.43	836.25	+13.63	...
Extra Income	718.63	756.46	+11.56	...
Worldwide Gilt	492.98	518.93	+11.82	...
Balanced Fund	688.00	724.22	+10.54	...
Smllr Cos Recov	715.02	752.66	+16.46	...
N Amer & Genl	361.39	380.42	-10.70	...
Pacific Basin	416.78	438.72	+28.37	...
German Growth	244.81	257.70	-3.80	...
Japan Growth	181.52	191.08	-2.48	...
The UK Gilt Fd	216.23	227.62	-3.33	...
Contl Euro Gilt	143.70	151.27	+3.85	...
Property Fund	412.91	434.65	+1.00	...
Fixed Interest	314.47	331.03	+6.10	...
Cash Fund	297.65	303.00	+0.30	...
Managed Inc	504.02	530.55	+8.33	...
Nth Amer Recov	235.10	247.57	-4.20	...
Tourist Fund				
Managed Grth	505.90	532.90	+4.17	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 01475 868000				
Measured Perf	161.20	170.50	+2.70	...
Performance Plus	160.80	170.10	+3.30	...
With Profit Perf	174.70	184.90	+0.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	183.80	194.40	+4.30	...
Euro Opportunity	224.50	237.50	+2.40	...
North Amer Opp	168.40	178.20	+6.90	...
Far East Opp	194.50	205.80	-13.80	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	127.60	134.30	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	177.70	188.00	-0.20	...
Fixed Int	192.40	203.50	+1.40	...
Cash	158.80	168.00	-0.30	...
Overseas	185.30	196.00	+4.00	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	339.80	357.70	+6.40	...
UK Equity	580.60	611.20	+6.60	...
Property	257.60	271.30	...	...
Money Market	255.80	269.30	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	298.80	314.60	+0.30	...
Japan	348.20	366.60	-12.30	...
North America	157.90	166.30	+6.70	...
International	290.30	305.60	+7.30	...
European	291.50	306.90	-3.20	...
Far East	138.80	146.20	+11.10	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Equity Growth	£221.80	...	...	...
Managed	330.60	348.10	+3.60	...
Property	238.70	251.30	-0.30	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	243.50	256.40	-1.20	...
Equity	368.10	387.50	+3.30	...
Cash	221.30	233.00	-0.20	...
CLife Euro Mgd	391.70	412.40	+1.50	...
CLife Intl Fd	350.60	369.10	+6.80	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	166.00	176.90	...	...
Managed Fund	616.60	649.10	+9.90	...
Equity Fund	355.40	374.20	+6.20	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	291.60	307.00	+4.40	...
Ruby	174.10	183.30	+3.90	...
Emerald	147.90	155.70	+1.20	...
Equity	332.80	350.40	+5.00	...
Property	234.20	246.60	+0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	205.70	216.60	+1.60	...
Indexed Secs	173.20	182.40	+2.40	...
Cash	190.20	200.30	+0.10	...
Nth American	232.50	244.80	+5.40	...
Far East	324.80	341.90	+16.70	...
International	243.10	255.90	+3.60	...
Special Sits	330.60	348.10	+4.30	...
Intl Income	295.40	311.00	+4.60	...
American Inc	200.80	211.40	+5.70	...
European	331.90	349.40	+3.20	...
Japanese	138.60	145.90	-2.70	...
SE Asia	367.10	386.50	+25.90	...
With Profits Reg	169.20	178.20	+0.20	...
-do- Spec	169.20	178.20	+0.30	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	329.80	347.30	+6.80	...
Equity	395.80	416.70	+8.70	...
Property	213.70	225.00	-0.40	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	257.20	270.80	+1.60	...
Index Linked	182.80	192.50	+2.30	...
Cash	255.80	269.30	+0.30	...
Nth American	291.30	306.70	+8.10	...
Far East Acc	312.50	329.00	+4.60	...
International Acc	307.70	323.90	+4.10	...
Special Sits	480.10	505.40	+6.60	...
European Flex	458.10	482.30	+5.20	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Unkst) Key	£220.20	...	+4.67	...
-do- Pacemaker	£319.90	...	+7.20	...
-do- Cash	206.62	217.49	+0.11	...
-do- Equity	561.73	591.29	+7.53	...
-do- Fxd Int	359.86	378.80	+2.80	...
-do- Managed	401.40	422.53	+5.66	...
-do- Property	290.14	305.41	+3.59	...
(Pens) Cash Cap	209.30	220.32	+0.05	...
-do- Cash Inv	311.09	327.47	-0.34	...
-do- Equity Cap	£14.63	£15.40	+25.35	...
-do- Equity Inv	£21.74	£22.89	+39.19	...
-do- Fixed Cap	392.32	412.98	+2.69	...
-do- Fixed Inv	583.12	613.83	+4.42	...
-do- Index Cap	206.22	217.08	+3.97	...
-do- Index Inv	306.51	322.65	+6.11	...
Mngd Cap	582.58	613.25	+8.41	...
Mngd Inv	865.91	911.50	+13.11	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	£722.62	...	+8.82	...
Var Ann (5)	593.94	...	+0.90	...
Prime Managed	410.10	431.70	+5.60	...
Prime UK Equity	498.90	525.20	+7.50	...
Prime Intl Equity	306.90	323.10	+3.50	...
Prime Property	254.00	267.40	-0.10	...
Prime Fxd Int	233.80	246.20	+2.70	...
Prime Index-Lnk	175.10	184.40	+3.00	...
Prime Cash	209.60	220.70	+0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744840				
Managed Fund	£11.33	£11.93	-1.40	0.0
Equity Fund	£16.58	£17.45	-17.40	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 01483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	607.70	639.60	+7.20	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	375.90	395.60	+1.90	...
Life Equity Acc	851.60	896.40	+11.30	...
Life Money Acc	305.00	321.00	+0.10	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	805.60	848.00	+13.70	...
Life Intl Acc	509.30	536.10	+5.60	...
Life High Inc Acc	824.10	867.40	+10.70	...
Life Property Acc	247.80	260.80	+0.20	...
Crown Brit Inv A	£13.74	...	+40.00	...
Brewin Equity	740.60	779.50	+8.30	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311				
Secure Fund	178.30	187.70	+0.10	...
Managed Fund	240.90	253.60	+3.30	...
-do- Series 2	158.50	166.90	+2.30	...
Adventurous Fd	197.60	208.10	+4.00	...
-do- Series 2	152.00	160.00	+3.80	...
Equity Mngd Fd	241.50	254.30	+4.60	...
-do- Series 2	160.60	169.10	+3.10	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	143.60	151.20	+1.00	...
UK Equity Fund	166.70	175.50	+2.20	...
Property Fund	118.30	124.60	-1.90	...
Envrnmnd Opps	167.10	175.90	+1.00	...
Euro Fund	191.80	202.00	-1.20	...
North Amer Fd	200.10	210.70	+6.70	...
Oriental Ops	233.60	245.90	-16.40	...
Japanese Fund	120.10	126.50	-4.40	...
Brl & West Life	126.30	133.00	+0.10	...
Brl & West Pen	143.70	151.30	+0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	264.80	274.40	+4.70	3.34
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	311.80	328.30	+3.70	...
UK Equity	414.00	435.80	+4.90	...
Stewardship	353.10	371.70	+3.90	...
Overseas Equity	288.60	303.80	+4.10	...
North American	155.60	163.80	+5.20	...
Pacific Basin	166.30	175.10	+4.80	...
European	227.80	239.80	-0.90	...
Property	200.70	211.30	+0.10	...
Fixed Interest	235.10	247.50	+1.60	...
Index Linked	172.60	181.70	+3.00	...
Cash	203.60	214.40	+0.10	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	546.00	574.70	+6.10	...
Managed	708.50	745.70	+7.90	...
Deposit	350.60	369.00	+0.40	...
Property	489.00	514.70	+0.40	...
American	438.90	462.00	-14.50	...
Australian	533.70	561.70	+7.00	...
European	551.40	580.40	+2.80	...
Income Acc	774.90	815.60	+8.80	...
-do- Dist	458.70	482.90	+6.70	5.03
International	317.60	334.30	+4.30	...
Japan Smaller	467.40	492.00	-16.00	...
Singapore & Mal	391.90	412.50	+18.20	...
Smaller Cos	406.60	428.00	+6.20	...
Tokyo Fund	676.80	712.40	-19.60	...
UK Equity	593.30	624.50	+6.00	...
CCM Vangd Mg	762.30	802.40	+11.00	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	309.30	325.60	...	...
GT Plan Wwide	477.10	502.30	+8.40	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	698.50	698.50	+7.40	...
-do- Inv A	698.40	735.30	+2.80	...
UK Equity	416.10	438.10	+3.50	...
Gilt Plus	204.50	215.40	+1.40	...
Managed	310.80	327.30	+3.60	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	214.50	225.70	+2.40	...
Unitised Profit	140.70	148.00	+0.20	...
UK Equity	287.20	302.20	+0.70	...
Fixed Int	194.40	204.60	+0.30	...
Index-Linked	170.30	179.20	+3.50	...
Cash Deposit	176.70	185.90	+0.20	...
Property	191.50	201.50	+0.30	...
International	176.50	185.70	-2.40	...
American	166.80	175.50	+3.60	...
Japan	241.40	254.00	-8.20	...
Japan Smllr Cos	247.20	260.10	-8.40	...
European	190.70	200.60	+0.90	...
Pacific Fund	286.30	301.30	+16.60	...
Conv Life	127.80	134.50	-3.00	...
For General Portfolio see Gan				
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	828.00	862.50	...	...
Managed Initial	464.50	488.90	+6.50	...
-do- Acc	668.80	704.00	+9.60	...
Equity Initial	695.50	732.10	+9.60	...
-do- Acc	£10.01	£10.54	+14.20	...
Fixed Int Initial	444.80	468.20	+4.50	...
-do- Acc	640.50	674.20	+6.70	...
Intl Initial	457.60	481.70	+8.20	...
-do- Acc	659.00	693.60	+12.10	...
Nth Amer Initial	182.50	192.10	+4.30	...
-do- Acc	239.20	251.80	+6.40	...
Pacific Initial	242.70	255.40	+5.30	...
-do- Acc	315.00	331.60	+6.90	...
Property Initial	181.30	190.90	...	...
-do- Acc	260.90	274.60	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	164.00	172.60	+3.30	...
-do- Acc	214.90	226.20	+4.40	...
Deposit Initial	198.90	209.40	+0.10	...
-do- Acc	286.50	301.50	+0.20	...
Euro Initial	108.80	114.50	+0.30	...
-do- Acc	131.80	138.70	+0.50	...
HALIFAX LIFE LTD PO Box 285, York YO1 1YB 01904 611118				
Life Funds				
Foundation	25.32	26.65	+0.27	...
Balanced	25.86	27.22	+0.32	...
Opportunity	25.79	27.14	+0.42	...
Deposit	24.00	25.26	+0.02	...
Pension Funds				
Foundation	25.55	26.90	+0.33	...
Balanced	26.11	27.48	+0.42	...
Opportunity	25.86	27.22	+0.49	...
Deposit	24.10	25.37	+0.03	...
HAMBRO ASSURED Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 848000				
Managed	170.90	179.90	-2.30	...
-do- Pens	210.60	221.60	+3.60	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	173.80	182.90	+1.40	...
-do- Pens	200.60	211.10	+2.20	...
International	151.90	159.90	+4.10	...
-do- Pens	165.50	174.20	+4.50	...
Deposit	141.40	148.80	...	...
-do- Pens	168.20	177.00	+0.20	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 0171 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	362.40	385.60	+5.10	...
North America	354.10	376.80	+12.00	...
Far East Fund	595.70	633.80	+10.40	...
Global Managed	469.90	499.90	+5.60	...
Deposit Fund	232.70	245.00	+0.40	...
Prime Residential	139.30	146.70	-0.10	...
European Fund	268.00	285.30	+1.50	...
Fixed Interest	61.70	65.60	-0.40	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	523.70	554.20	+5.90	...
British Fund	540.50	572.00	+8.10	...
International	554.10	586.40	+8.80	...
Dollar Fund	398.10	421.30	+10.40	...
Capital Fund	493.20	522.00	+5.70	...
Income Fund	711.50	753.00	+8.70	...
Property Series A	467.20	494.40	...	4.50
Property Units	772.10	810.80	...	...
Financial Fund	606.60	642.00	+16.90	...
Managed Ser A	553.40	585.70	+5.80	...
Managed Units	992.00	£10.44	+10.40	...
High Yield Fund	657.00	696.20	-7.70	...
Money Series A	293.30	310.30	+0.20	...
Money Units	389.10	409.60	+0.30	...
Equity Fund	629.10	665.80	+7.30	...
Fixed Interest	368.20	389.70	+2.50	...
Indexed Secs	191.60	202.80	+3.40	...
European Fund	748.90	792.50	+6.60	...
Natural Res	290.40	307.40	-0.70	...
Far East Fund	660.50	699.00	+8.80	...
Smaller Cos	504.20	533.60	-11.60	...
Special Sits	457.50	484.20	+3.10	...
Man Currency	269.00	284.70	+1.80	...
Japanese Tech	275.90	292.00	-9.80	...
US Smaller Cos	260.00	275.20	+7.40	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181				
Global Managed	580.70	611.30	+8.00	...
Global Property	299.90	315.70	...	...
Global Fixed Int	519.00	546.30	+3.80	...
Global Equity	624.40	657.30	+9.70	...
Global Cash	217.30	228.60	+0.20	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 01452 371371				
Property	490.20	516.00	-0.10	...
Managed	421.80	444.00	+6.70	...
American	428.00	450.50	+13.00	...
UK Equity Fd	457.20	481.20	+8.30	...
Japan	190.40	200.40	-6.40	...
Index-Lkd	189.90	199.80	+5.60	...
High Yield	868.30	914.00	+13.60	...
Money	409.60	431.10	+0.30	...
International	397.10	417.90	+6.50	...
Henderson Active	210.80	221.80	+1.90	...
Perpetual Active	331.90	349.30	+3.40	...
Growth Acc	660.20	694.90	+10.10	...
Gilt Edged	438.80	461.80	+1.20	...
European	161.50	170.00	+1.60	...
Far East	212.20	223.30	+15.40	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.80	141.90	...	...
-do- Acc	188.90	198.90	+0.10	...
Brit Opps Init	144.80	152.50	-1.70	...
-do- Acc	182.10	191.70	+2.30	...
Cash Initial	167.80	176.70	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	292.50	307.90	+0.30	...
Equity Initial	666.60	701.70	+9.70	...
-do- Acc	£11.61	£12.23	-16.80	...
Fixed Initial	343.90	362.00	+2.60	...
-do- Acc	599.50	631.10	-4.50	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	136.30	143.50	+2.70	...
-do- Acc	202.70	213.40	+4.10	...
Intl Initial	320.50	337.40	+3.90	...
-do- Acc	550.00	579.00	-6.60	...
Managed Initial	476.90	502.00	-6.10	...
-do- Acc	831.20	875.00	+10.50	...
Property Initial	217.30	228.80	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	378.80	398.80	+0.40	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 0181 902 8876				
Equity Units	£132.49	...	+0.70	...
Property Units	£26.99	...	-0.02	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£67.32	£70.86	+0.51	...
2nd Equity Acc	647.90	682.00	+4.60	...
2nd High Inc Ac	617.00	649.50	+4.10	...
2nd Property Acc	247.70	260.70	-0.20	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	184.00	193.70	+1.30	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	472.10	496.90	+3.60	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	233.20	245.50	+1.80	...
2nd Deposit Acc	289.10	304.30	+0.10	...
2nd Gilt Acc	306.20	322.30	+2.60	...
2nd Amer Acc	682.40	718.30	+9.00	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	287.10	302.20	+3.90	...
2nd Index Acc	212.40	223.60	+2.70	...
2nd Far East Acc	444.00	467.30	+5.50	...
2nd Global Acc	170.70	179.70	+2.30	...
2nd Euro Acc	169.40	178.30	+3.60	...
2nd Japan Acc	196.20	206.50	-0.80	...
2nd Intl Cr Bd Acc	173.60	182.70	+3.10	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	130.10	137.00	+0.80	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA 0117 9279179				
Equity	£943.90	...	+11.10	...
Fixed Interest	£429.60	...	+3.40	...
Property	£430.70	...	-0.60	...
Deposit	£296.40	...	-0.20	...
Mixed	£620.00	...	+5.50	...
Indexed Stock	£220.50	...	+4.10	...
International	£300.50	...	+1.10	...
Equity A	£219.00	...	+2.60	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fixed Int A	£190.60	...	+1.40	...
Property A	£189.30	...	+0.30	...
Deposit A	£174.10	...	+0.10	...
Mixed A	£203.70	...	+1.80	...
Index Stock A	£172.60	...	+3.20	...
International A	£187.70	...	+0.70	...
Equity P	£787.40	...	+11.40	...
Fixed Int P	£566.60	...	+3.40	...
Property P	£340.30	...	+1.00	...
Deposit P	£349.90	...	+0.30	...
Mixed P	£573.90	...	+5.90	...
Index Stock P	£252.70	...	+4.60	...
International P	£362.40	...	+1.80	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap	£575.20	...	+8.10	...
-do- Acc	£981.70	...	-14.60	...
Property Cap	£148.30	...	-0.20	...
-do- Acc	£243.30	...	-0.10	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£193.40	...	+1.20	...
-do- Acc	£319.10	...	+2.30	...
Equity Cap	£318.10	...	+3.80	...
-do- Acc	£532.00	...	+6.80	...
Internatl Cap	£229.90	...	+4.30	...
-do- Acc	£380.60	...	+7.30	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£164.40	...	...	...
-do- Acc	£267.90	...	+0.10	7.20
Flexible Cap	£341.80	...	+4.20	...
-do- Acc	£570.00	...	+7.50	...
Moneymaker Fd	£440.80	...	+5.80	...
Capital Growth	£17.28	...	+23.70	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 01245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	426.70	448.10	+18.90	...
Amer Rec Bond	508.50	534.00	+23.50	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	242.60	254.80	+11.40	...
Australasia Bd	225.10	236.40	+1.70	...
Commodity Bond	314.30	330.20	-3.70	...
Deposit Bond Acc	367.40	385.80	+0.30	...
Equity Bond Acc	£15.62	£16.41	+27.40	...
European Bd Acc	391.80	411.50	+0.40	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	758.90	796.90	+0.20	...
Far East Bd Acc	312.40	328.10	-18.40	...
Gilt Bond Acc	445.60	467.90	+3.30	...
Gold Bond Acc	149.60	157.20	-2.10	...
High Yield Bond	343.50	360.80	+4.90	...
Index-Lnk Gi Bd	214.30	225.10	+4.10	...
International Bd	772.20	810.90	+11.20	...
Japan Bond Acc	250.90	263.50	-11.70	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	240.93	253.10	-12.40	...
Managed Bonds	889.90	934.50	+19.70	...
Prop Bond Acc	345.70	363.00	-2.00	...
Rec Bond Acc	779.80	818.90	+21.30	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631				
UK Equity	226.80	238.80	+2.30	...
UK Equity Acc	324.80	341.90	+3.40	...
Special Sits	92.70	97.60	+0.80	...
Special Sits Acc	132.80	139.80	+1.30	...
North American	181.30	190.90	+5.60	...
N American Acc	259.70	273.40	+8.30	...
Pacific Basin	365.60	384.90	+11.60	...
Pacific Basin Acc	523.70	551.30	+16.80	...
Fixed Interest	280.80	295.60	+2.50	...
Fixed Interest Acc	402.70	423.90	+3.90	...
Property	178.60	188.00	-0.10	...
Property Acc	256.10	269.60	+0.20	...
Deposit	152.50	160.60	...	...
Deposit Acc	218.90	230.50	+0.20	...
Managed	260.90	274.70	+3.10	...
Managed Acc	344.50	362.70	+4.20	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 01438 356101				
Managed Fund	724.20	762.30	+7.70	...
Property Fund	549.40	578.30	+0.50	...
Equity Fund	928.70	977.60	+10.20	...
Gilt Edged Fd	632.40	666.20	+4.90	...
Deposit Fund	335.90	353.60	+0.20	...
Investment Fd	398.70	419.70	+4.70	...
International	551.20	580.20	+7.60	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead Bristol BS1 2NH 0117 9266 366				
Property	445.00	468.40	+0.30	...
UK Equity	363.70	382.80	+3.60	...
Gilt Edged	577.80	608.20	+3.40	...
Interest Fund	392.80	413.40	+0.30	...
UK Fund	496.90	523.00	+0.10	...
Intl Equity	604.50	636.30	+12.10	...
Intl Managed	577.40	607.70	+12.90	...
North American	224.50	236.30	+8.20	...
Far East	462.40	486.70	-16.50	...
Intl Currency	265.40	279.30	-3.90	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 0171 623 4200				
Managed	496.50	522.60	+6.70	...
UK Equity	624.30	657.10	+9.70	...
Overseas Equity	488.30	513.90	+4.80	...
Americas	419.00	441.00	+15.20	...
Far East	563.50	593.10	+27.00	...
Property	222.60	234.30	+0.70	...
Fixed Interest	391.40	412.00	+2.80	...
Indexed Gilt	239.00	251.50	+4.20	...
Deposit	220.20	231.70	-0.20	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 01603 622200				
Managed Fund	£14.65	£15.42	+21.70	...
Eqty Fund	£32.06	£33.75	+49.50	...
Property Fd	579.20	609.70	+1.30	...
Fixed Int Fd	598.70	630.20	+5.00	...
Deposit Fund	355.10	373.80	+0.30	...
Intl Fund	249.40	262.50	-4.00	...
OLD MUTUAL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 01256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	297.60	314.00	+4.90	...
Fxd Interest Acc	243.50	256.90	+1.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
International Acc	252.90	266.80	+3.40	...
Managed Acc	222.60	234.90	+2.30	...
Property Acc	224.10	236.40	+0.30	...
Money Acc	157.40	166.10	+0.20	...
Spec Mkt Acc	216.30	228.20	-2.70	...
Japan Equity Acc	121.30	128.00	-4.50	...
N Amer Acc	160.60	169.50	+5.70	...
Pacific Acc	155.60	164.20	+2.70	...
European Acc	188.90	199.30	+0.20	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 01733 470470				
Inv Prop Dist	158.50	166.90	+0.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	333.80	351.40	+0.40	...
Inv Equity	£12.31	£12.96	+17.80	...
Inv Managed	868.50	914.30	-11.60	...
Ret Managed	987.00	£10.39	+14.40	...
For Providence Capitol see Old Mutual				
PROVIDENT MUTUAL Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2ST 01438 732000				
Managed Ord	490.20	516.00	+7.70	...
Managed Initial	325.90	343.10	+4.90	...
Equity Ord	744.90	784.10	+11.00	...
Equity Init	495.30	521.40	+7.10	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	206.30	217.20	+3.60	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	143.30	150.80	+2.40	...
Oseas Equity Ord	388.30	408.70	+9.90	...
Oseas Equity Init	256.20	271.80	+6.40	...
Property Ord	283.20	298.10	+1.40	...
Property Init	188.30	198.20	+0.70	...
Fixed Int Ord	283.90	298.80	+2.30	...
Fixed Int Init	188.80	198.70	+1.40	...
Deposit Ord	209.80	220.80	+0.20	...
Deposit Initial	139.50	146.80	+0.10	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 0171 405 9222				
Managed	347.70	362.20	+3.40	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 0171 548 3278				
Managed Fund	822.30	865.50	+12.00	...
Equity Fund	£15.48	£16.29	+24.90	...
Intl Fund	646.70	680.90	+10.50	...
Fixed Interest	571.60	601.70	+3.40	...
Property Fund	485.30	510.90	...	...
Cash Fund	370.30	389.80	+0.50	...
Pacific Basin	373.20	392.90	+12.00	...
N American Fd	271.00	285.30	+9.70	...
Euro Fund	287.30	302.50	+1.90	...
Balanced Fund	160.90	169.40	+2.30	...
Strategic Fund	170.00	179.00	+2.80	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	£768.80	...	+15.70	...
-do- Acc	447.40	471.00	...	...
Op Prop	507.20	534.40	-0.10	...
Op Equity	981.70	£10.33	+11.20	...
Op High Yield	599.60	631.10	+6.10	...
Op Managed	827.90	871.40	+10.20	...
Op Deposit	399.30	420.30	+0.30	...
Inc Gilt	298.80	314.60	+4.20	...
Japan Smlr	244.80	257.70	-5.20	...
Managed Gth	263.10	277.00	+3.80	...
Gilt	60.50	64.80	+1.00	...
British	370.70	390.30	+6.30	...
Global Bond	116.30	132.50	+3.00	...
Global (35.34)	164.70	173.40	+2.90	...
Gold Share	83.40	87.80	-1.30	...
High Income	292.70	308.20	+3.70	...
Income	430.70	453.40	+5.80	...
Japan	426.10	448.60	-5.60	...
UK Smlr Cos	357.20	376.00	+7.70	...
Mngd Growth	462.30	486.70	+8.90	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 0151 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	993.20	£10.50	+16.30	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	393.50	414.20	+6.40	...
Equity Fund	556.20	585.40	+4.80	...
Property Fund	337.80	355.50	-0.10	...
International	496.00	522.10	+8.70	...
Pacific Basin	267.00	281.00	+5.10	...
United States	272.10	286.40	+9.50	...
Gilt Fund	371.60	391.10	+2.90	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	778.70	824.10	+5.40	2.63
Deposit Fund (3)	378.50	400.60	+0.30	6.83
Gilt Fund	523.80	554.30	+4.70	8.11
Global Equity Fd	238.70	252.60	+3.20	...
Property Fund (4)	113.20	119.80	...	6.69
AG Bond Fund	149.50	158.30	+3.50	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 0141 248 2323				
Equity	608.80	640.90	+7.10	...
Fixed Interest	376.30	396.40	+2.00	...
Index-Linked	201.40	212.10	+2.90	...
International	472.90	497.80	+6.80	...
Property	303.50	319.50	+0.30	...
Cash	233.90	246.30	-0.20	...
Managed	480.40	505.70	+5.00	...
Cap Gteed Bd	117.80	124.00	+1.50	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 0131 556 9101				
Cash	184.26	193.96	+0.14	...
Index-Linked	167.60	176.40	+2.90	...
Fixed Interest	176.90	186.20	+0.90	...
Mixed	261.80	275.50	+1.90	...
UK Equity	248.70	261.80	+2.70	...
International	263.60	277.50	-0.90	...
American	269.60	283.80	+7.30	...
Japan	232.30	244.40	-6.20	...
European	269.40	283.60	-3.50	...
Pacific	352.10	370.60	+18.40	...
Technology	388.70	409.10	+3.90	...
Currency/Currncy	238.80	251.40	-1.80	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 0131 225 2211				
Property	226.30	238.30	+0.30	...
UK Equity	364.70	384.00	+5.50	...
American	260.60	274.40	+7.70	...
Pacific	352.00	370.60	+9.50	...
European	500.30	526.70	-0.50	...
International	318.00	334.80	+6.20	...
Fixed Interest	238.90	251.60	+2.10	...
Index Linked	202.90	213.70	+3.60	...
Deposit	197.60	208.10	+0.10	...
Managed	293.90	309.50	+4.40	...
Worldwide	123.30	129.90	+3.10	...
Pen Worldwide	131.60	138.70	+4.00	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 0141 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£16.52	£17.04	...	...
Safety Fund	239.00	251.60	+1.90	...
Growth Fund	234.60	247.00	+3.10	...
Opportunity Fd	232.50	244.80	+3.70	...
Cash Fund	177.10	186.50	+0.10	...
European Fund	355.20	373.90	+3.30	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	203.90	214.70	+2.00	...
Index-Linked Fd	187.40	197.30	+4.20	...
International Fd	287.30	302.50	+4.70	...
North American	237.10	249.60	+6.70	...
Property Fund	130.10	137.00	...	...
UK Equity	250.00	263.20	+3.00	...
UK Smaller	240.80	253.50	+3.40	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 0131 556 9181				
Mixed	273.30	287.80	+3.90	...
Equity	287.40	302.60	+3.60	...
International	277.00	291.70	+5.40	...
Property	235.90	248.50	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	222.10	233.90	+0.50	...
Index Linked	185.60	195.50	+3.50	...
Cash	189.50	199.60	+0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	817.50	869.70	+8.20	...
Cash Fund	344.60	363.20	+0.30	...
Property Fund	298.20	314.30	+0.40	...
Equity Fund	928.90	988.30	-15.20	...
Fxd Interest Fund	469.00	494.30	+3.00	...
International	401.30	427.00	-7.80	...
High Income	732.60	768.80	+5.10	...
Far East	572.00	608.60	+17.40	...
North American	566.20	604.50	-32.50	...
Special Sits	667.20	709.80	+8.30	...
Technology	669.10	711.90	-22.40	...
Extra Income Fd	391.80	416.90	+3.90	...
Gilt Fund	484.10	515.10	+2.40	...
European	156.40	166.40	+0.90	...
Adventurous Mg	227.20	239.20	+6.10	...
Secure Mgd	151.50	159.70	+1.50	...
Equity Inc Dist	118.60	125.00	+1.70	4.45
North American	111.30	117.30	+1.40	5.12
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 0131 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	967.40	967.40	+13.90	...
Inv Pol 2	878.20	924.50	+13.30	...
Inv Pol 3	837.40	881.60	-12.70	...
Inv Cash	320.20	337.20	+0.30	...
Mixed Fund	456.40	480.60	+3.80	...
Equity Fund	546.50	575.30	+8.70	...
Property Fund	248.50	261.70	+0.50	...
International Fd	485.10	510.70	+0.80	...
Fixed Interest Fd	381.60	401.80	+2.60	...
Indexed Stock Fd	205.10	216.00	+4.20	...
Cash Fund	231.80	244.10	+0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 01703 334411				
Managed Acc	390.00	410.50	+5.00	...
Equity Acc	463.90	488.30	+3.20	...
International Acc	361.30	380.30	+4.80	...
Property	231.20	243.30	+0.20	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0131 225 2552				
Cash	272.60	287.00	+0.20	...
Equity	£10.35	£10.90	-13.70	...
European	179.90	189.40	+1.00	...
Far East	175.10	184.40	+3.20	...
Fixed Interest	406.30	427.70	+3.50	...
Index Linked	217.60	229.10	+4.70	...
International	640.50	674.30	-8.80	...
Managed	726.40	764.70	+9.30	...
Nth American	152.00	160.10	+2.90	...
Property	367.20	386.60	+0.10	...
Pensions				
Cash	426.30	448.80	+0.40	...
Equity	£15.15	£15.95	+22.20	...
European	217.90	229.40	+1.50	...
Far East	141.40	148.90	+2.60	...
Fixed Interest	564.20	593.90	+4.30	...
Index Linked	303.00	319.00	+6.50	...
International	906.80	956.70	+15.80	...
Managed	£10.34	£10.89	+15.60	...
Nth American	190.00	200.00	-4.40	...
Property	503.40	529.90	+0.20	...
Stock Exchange	233.30	245.60	+3.70	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 01403 232323				
Managed Fund	675.80	711.40	+6.50	...
Equity Fund	889.70	936.60	+12.30	...
Fixed Interest Fd	418.60	440.70	+3.90	...
Index-Linked Fd	328.00	345.30	+6.00	...
Property Fund	524.80	552.50	+0.60	...
International Fd	648.60	682.80	+2.40	...
N American Fd	245.30	258.30	+9.80	...
Far East Fund	234.80	247.30	+12.00	...
Deposit Fund	302.60	318.80	+0.20	...
International Bd	£186.93	...	-1.76	...
Worldwide Bond	162.40	171.00	+3.30	...
European	172.10	181.20	+1.00	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	670.30	705.70	-5.30	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	454.70	484.60	...	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£607.00	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	£565.90	...	+0.60	...
Agricultural Fd	£835.60	...	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	£802.60	...	+0.50	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£451.00	...	+0.40	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£476.20	...	+0.40	...
Investment Fd	£360.00	...	+3.30	...
Investment (A)	£345.40	...	+3.20	...
Equity	£12.97	...	+17.00	...
Equity Acc	£12.40	...	+16.20	...
Money Fund	£483.80	...	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	£462.10	...	+0.50	...
Actuarial Fd	£595.60	...	+5.30	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£392.30	...	+3.40	...
-do- Acc	£392.30	...	+3.40	...
Retire Annuity	£12.50	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£298.50	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£230.20	...	-0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 01256 841414				
Growth Account	£15.22	...	+13.20	...
Managed Acc	850.20	...	+5.70	...
Equity Accounts	£12.15	...	+6.40	...
Mngd Fund Acc	390.40	411.00	+2.70	...
Equity Fund Acc	530.20	558.10	+2.90	...
Prop Fund Acc	264.50	278.40	-1.20	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	310.70	327.00	+2.50	...
Money Fund Acc	225.00	236.80	+0.20	...
Inda-Lnk Sec Ac	207.10	218.00	+2.00	...
Pers Pens Acct	£19.47	...	+28.10	...
Pens Mngd Acct	905.20	952.80	+13.80	...
Pens Guarantee	260.80	274.50	+1.20	...
Pens Equity	347.60	365.90	+4.50	...
Pens Property	308.10	324.40	-0.10	...
Pens Fixed Int	290.80	306.10	+2.40	...
Pens Intl	251.50	264.40	+8.10	...
Pens Money	241.80	254.60	+0.80	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	199.30	209.80	+3.40	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0117 9426911				
Managed Acc	920.00	968.50	+13.10	...
Property Acc	313.00	329.50	+6.40	...
Equity Acc	£15.00	£15.79	+22.70	...
Fixed Int Acc	404.70	426.10	+2.50	...
Cash Acc	314.60	331.20	+0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	384.80	405.10	+15.80	...
Japan Acc	307.80	324.00	-6.20	...
Pacific Acc	361.10	380.20	+14.40	...
Far Eastern Acc	845.70	890.30	+20.20	...
International Acc	610.50	642.70	-13.50	...
Distribution Fund	280.40	295.20	-3.30	5.93
European	202.50	213.20	+1.40	...
Defrd Dist	172.50	181.60	-2.10	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 01264 345678				
Managed Fund	290.90	306.30	+4.10	...
Property Fund	231.50	243.80	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest Fd	227.70	239.80	+1.70	...
Money Fund	203.50	214.40	+0.20	...
Equity Fund	376.40	396.30	+5.90	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 01296 394000				
Deposit	253.20	266.60	-0.30	...
Financial Ser 1	48.80	52.30	-1.40	...
Fixed Interest	330.00	347.50	+2.40	...
Gold	78.00	82.20	-1.70	...
Managed	623.80	656.80	+8.40	...
Mngd Growth	197.40	207.90	+3.60	...
Mngd Opp	207.70	218.70	+3.80	...
Property	326.20	343.40	...	...
Residential Prop	103.20	108.70	-0.10	...
TSB American	201.80	212.50	+8.60	...
TSB Brit Gwth	876.20	922.40	-14.70	...
TSB European	272.00	286.40	+5.60	...
TSB Income	392.30	413.10	+7.10	...
TSB Intl	423.70	446.10	+6.90	...
TSB Intl Inc	292.40	307.90	-4.70	...
TSB Pacific	412.00	433.80	-12.00	...
TSB Prem Inc	255.20	266.70	-3.60	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 01952 292929				
Managed Bond	711.80	750.10	-14.90	...
Money Fund	322.40	339.40	+0.20	...
Equity Fund	615.00	648.10	+2.70	...
Fixed Interest	283.70	298.90	-4.40	...
Property Fund	360.40	379.40	-2.00	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Gnrl	594.50	615.90	-13.80	...
Income	766.90	808.10	+11.20	...
International Gth	632.00	666.00	+11.50	...
Capital Fund	617.60	660.60	+9.30	...
Recovery Fund	642.80	677.30	-6.20	...
Japan & General	258.00	271.90	-2.20	...
Formerly AEtna				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	18.34	19.31	+0.01	...
Bear	19.92	20.97	+0.22	...
Owl	21.06	22.17	+0.21	...
Bull	18.43	19.40	+0.32	...
Stag	18.98	19.98	+0.37	...
Gilt Edged	19.03	20.03	+0.27	...
Deposit	16.03	16.87	+0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	25.02	26.34	+0.02	...
Bear	27.69	29.15	+0.32	...
Owl	28.54	30.04	+0.32	...
Bull	23.57	24.81	-0.40	...
Stag	23.23	24.45	+0.49	...
Gilt Edged	24.11	25.38	+0.35	...
Deposit	20.81	21.90	+0.02	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	598.32	...	+9.74	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	347.11	365.38	+4.35	...
N Amer Equity	285.12	300.13	-8.01	...
Far East Equity	364.21	383.38	-11.17	...
Fixed	300.22	316.02	+4.26	...
Cash Deposit	208.07	219.02	+0.14	...
Property	153.51	161.59	-0.02	...
Special Opp	348.24	366.57	+4.39	...
Managed	316.11	332.75	+5.41	...
Index-Linked Fd	196.27	206.60	+4.43	...

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01890 258 783

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Gtnland Amer	171.80	181.80	+ 7.50	0.25
Gtnland Equity	241.30	256.70†	+ 4.00	2.43
Gtnland Euro	212.10	224.50	+ 0.90	0.40
Gtnland Equ Bal	115.50	119.70	+ 3.70	3.14
Gtnland Gilt	74.70	77.01	+ 0.48	4.85
Gtnland Japan	154.30	163.20	– 4.80	

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 553 231

General Acc	569.30	595.00	+ 8.10	2.76
General Inc	287.80	316.60	+ 7.10	2.76
UK Growth Acc	376.80	400.80†	+ 6.30	2.90
Uk Growth Inc	264.40	276.70†	+ 4.80	2.90
Higher Inc Acc	697.80	742.40†	+13.00	4.05
Higher Inc Inc	386.08	421.30†	+ 7.50	4.05
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	190.20	204.80	+ 1.10	5.84
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	89.75	94.80	+ 0.55	5.84
Nth America	279.10	297.00†	+12.50	
Europe	365.70	384.00	+ 8.10	0.67
Int Equity	74.99	79.78†	+ 1.25	3.02
Int Fixed Int Acc	194.60	111.30	+ 1.90	4.77
Int Fixed Int Inc	74.56	79.75	+ 1.31	4.77
Managed Dept	67.58	69.18†	+ 0.71	0.40
Balanced Acc	56.70	59.26†	+ 0.81	3.04
Balanced Inc	53.96	57.43†	+ 0.79	3.04
Japan Acc	45.64	48.56	– 1.65	
Pac Basin Acc	372.20	396.00	+20.20	0.65

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0845 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	129.10	137.60	+ 0.80	7.50
High Inc Equity	169.70	175.10†	+ 2.50	4.49
Worldwide Bond	280.40	297.40†	+ 8.00	4.37
Capital Growth				
American Growth	293.20	314.00	+11.10	1.01
Asian Pacific	314.90	335.00	+27.30	..
Assets & Savings	266.50	283.50†	+ 5.90	2.88
Comdty & Energy	98.14	104.40	+ 2.10	1.3
Euro Cap Nat Inc	139.60	145.20†	+ 0.90	.65
(Accum Units)	145.80	168.20	+ 1.00	.64
General	238.40	254.70	+ 4.10	2.14
Japan	117.20	125.30	– 2.50	..
Masterbus	143.30	153.20	+ 3.10	1.85
UK Growth Dist	118.40	128.60†	+ 2.50	3.04
US Emerging Cos	131.80	140.20	+ 3.00	
Income & Growth	391.50	416.50	+ 7.30	3.00
Ethical	88.01	72.35	+ 1.10	3.04
International	115.10	122.40	+ 2.90	1.07
Dividend & Growth	61.75	65.69	+ 0.57	4.28
Global Gwth & Inc	67.77	72.30	+ 0.14	2.70

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

Uk Small Cos	£17.84	£17.99	+33.00	

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 580

Amer Inc & Growth	47.06	48.86†	+ 1.76	0.63
Cash	50.41	50.41	+ 0.04	5.80
Emerging Mkts	69.97	72.57	+ 4.10	0.05
European	116.50	121.70	+ 1.10	
Exempt	965.70	610.32†	+11.00	1.80
Euro Income	43.85	45.65	+ 0.80	0.15
Far East Exmp Eqs	116.30	123.20	+ 0.50	0.51
Fixed Interest	22.09	23.19†	+ 0.24	4.92
Fixed Inv Tst	161.80	170.20†	+ 3.80	9.14
Japan	119.10	125.10	– 7.30	..
Latin American	51.49	54.04	– 1.00	1.60
Pacific	75.06	79.20†	+ 4.36	0.53
Property Shares	69.48	63.49	+ 0.96	2.15
UK Emerging Cos	61.92	64.98	+ 0.47	1.91
UK Growth	44.97	47.25	+ 0.48	2.48
Ethical	72.82	74.02†	+ 1.62	2.21
Ethical	62.77	65.89	+ 1.27	2.67
Aberdeen Gilt Inc	49.52	49.52	+ 0.15	7.58

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 549 3232

British Growth	65.65	69.25†	– 3.01	3.00
British Income	78.23	80.42†	– 3.50	3.76
Select Portfolio	87.04	92.60†	+ 2.00	

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 858

Arcdy Income	75.06	79.64	+ 1.04	2.80
Income Builder Inc	70.30	74.79	+ 1.25	2.93

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
tfn dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	236.50	252.80†	+ 4.40	3.09
Capital	414.50	443.10†	+ 8.00	1.07
Balanced	696.80	747.00†	+13.10	2.66
Accumulator	913.50	913.81	+23.00	2.94
Income Trusts				
American Income	50.46	53.94	+ 1.76	3.30
High Income	400.50	431.30	+ 8.90	3.59
Equity Income	226.90	242.50	+ 4.30	3.44
High Yield	241.70	256.30†	+ 4.90	4.36
Gowt Securities	32.79	34.61†	+ 0.18	6.13
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	157.20	168.00	+ 4.80	0.42
European Growth	25.93	27.87	+ 0.07	0.01
International	159.30	170.20†	+ 2.00	0.19
Japan	187.80	200.10†	– 7.20	0.01
Pacific	382.10	406.30	+16.50	0.01
Spec of America	452.20	481.00†	+13.40	0.48
Weekly Asset Val	48.26	51.36	+ 0.01	0.23
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	535.00	571.90	+ 9.20	2.23
Cons & Gen	43.04	46.00	+ 0.69	5.84
Smaller Cos	168.30	180.10	+ 3.10	1.23
2nd Smaller Cos	159.40	170.30	+ 2.90	1.43
Recovery	139.50	149.10†	+ 2.50	1.78
Mel Min & Colly	147.50	157.60†	+ 0.70	0.76
Ocean Earnings	357.50	382.10†	+ 5.50	1.76
Technology	169.80	181.50	+ 3.30	0.01
UK Special Sits	475.90	508.70	+ 9.00	1.70

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 526 911

Capital Gwt Pens	99.53	103.40	..	3.04
Foundtn Pacif Pens	61.30	63.66	..	1.44

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0033

Capital	72.39	77.01	+ 0.84	2.11
International	64.09	68.18	+ 1.56	

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

America	259.90	279.70	+ 8.60	
Bond	113.50	119.50†	+ 1.40	6.86
Brit Smlr Cos	100.40	106.60	+ 1.80	1.76
Core & Gen	64.51	68.53†	+ 0.86	3.73
Europe	225.50	240.00	+ 0.80	0.63
Euro Smlr Cos	98.33	105.80	+ 0.50	0.60
Income Gwth	342.20	364.00	+ 6.00	4.24
Japan	350.30	311.60	–3.10	
Latin American	68.66	73.26	+ 2.69	
Pacific	167.30	114.30	+ 8.10	1.32
Uk Smlr Cos	53.90	57.34	+ 1.70	1.35
Japan Fd	635.80	655.20	–32.70	
Mngd Pd	174.30	185.10	+ 2.80	3.24

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 488 6973

Bnk & Overs	295.70	311.30	+ 9.70	0.99
Capital Gwth	111.30	117.80	+ 1.20	2.71
Wrldw Opps	188.10	198.10	+ 8.70	0.87

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 534 5544

Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Pd Inc	348.30	362.80†	+ 6.10	2.95
European Bal Inc	90.89	94.10	+ 0.58	7.84
Exempt	73.77	76.68†	+ 1.12	4.28
Financial	78.52	81.84	+ 1.21	2.75
500.0	443.80	474.70	+ 8.20	2.66
General	275.90	295.40†	+ 4.80	2.85
Property	245.80	257.10	+ 0.70	5.01
Trustee	184.00	196.60	+ 1.70	2.50
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.50	100.50†	+ 0.10	5.26
Extra Income	118.20	126.50†	+ 2.60	4.19
Gilt & Fxd Int	57.52	59.46	+ 0.44	6.56
Income	525.50	562.00	+ 7.70	4.02
Income Builder	62.34	66.31	+ 0.88	4.84
Intl Income	82.88	88.90	+ 1.80	3.81
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	119.70	127.80	+ 1.90	2.56
Leisure	126.60	135.60	+ 1.40	1.55
Recovery	425.20	454.90	+ 7.30	2.65
Smlr Cos Inc	44.63	47.86	+ 0.97	2.92
Special Sits	285.80	305.70	+ 4.50	1.79
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	132.60	140.90†	+ 5.10	0.49
Aust Acc	241.40	256.80	+ 0.80	1.89
Aust Inc	148.50	158.00	+ 0.50	1.98
Euro Growth Inc	154.00	163.40	+ 1.10	1.11
(Accum Units)	164.90	174.90	+ 1.10	1.11
Japan & Gen Inc	161.80	171.30	– 6.10	
(Accum Units)	163.60	173.30	– 6.10	
Japan Spec Sits	74.80	79.74	+ 2.88	
Latin Tech Inc	80.28	85.31	+ 0.33	0.04
Worldwide	168.60	178.00	+ 3.00	0.95

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

American Growth	36.11	101.90	+ 4.80	..
Amer Smlr Cos	130.60	139.70	+ 6.10	..
Convertibles	53.23	57.56†	+ 0.90	5.70
Eastern	350.60	363.00	+27.30	0.90
Equity Income	84.29	89.59†	+ 1.40	4.91
European Growth	309.10	326.00†	+ 4.90	0.80
Europe	218.60	232.00	+ 1.20	0.20
German Growth	75.11	79.68	+ 0.54	0.50
Global Bond	62.53	65.00	+ 0.34	6.20
Global Growth	126.70	134.90	+ 0.30	
Japan Growth	178.30	189.60	– 7.10	..
Japan Smlr Cos	146.60	154.90	– 3.60	..
Korea Trust	74.50	79.20	+ 1.40	..
Pacific Basin	130.20	138.40	+ 2.30	2.10
(Accum Units)	239.50	256.50	+ 4.30	2.10
UK Growth	84.77	90.38	+ 1.43	2.20
UK Smaller Cos	81.65	86.44†	+ 1.31	1.80
Select Managers	75.35	80.79†	+ 1.70	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3260

Intl Gwth Pat Inc	76.36	81.23	+ 1.82	..
Special Opps Inc	86.48	90.09	+ 3.50	..

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
0141 223 6020

Balanced Growth	109.32	115.68†	+ 3.15	1.87
(Accum Units)	124.81	131.23	+ 3.57	1.87
Smaller Cos	106.69	113.11†	+ 2.42	1.26
Higher Yield	45.19	47.82†	+ 0.83	4.80
American Gth Inc	73.76	77.99	+ 3.60	
European Growth	136.89	144.85	+ 1.80	0.26
(Accum Units)	139.58	147.71	+ 1.83	0.26
Global Bond Inc	26.30	27.86	+ 0.16	6.86
Mngd Philo Inc	42.22	44.66†	+ 0.94	1.54
(Accum Units)	43.03	45.52	+ 0.95	1.54
Nat Spec Opps	114.93	121.62	+ 3.80	..
Pacific Gwth	190.45	139.85	+11.04	..
Formerly LAS				
Uk General	76.45	80.89	– 0.04	3.60
(Accum Units)	76.28	82.84	– 0.03	3.60
Europ	67.18	69.54	+ 0.44	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	86.30	90.80	+ 0.71	7.88

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0117 468 7215

Short Dated Gilt	63.42	64.23	+ 0.24	6.48

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5050

Balanced	156.90	167.90	+ 2.20	1.75
UK Growth	170.60	181.50	+ 2.20	2.56
UK Income	132.10	140.60†	+ 1.90	4.46

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01737 851 122

Can Gen Dist	189.20	200.90	+ 3.20	1.97
ab- Monthly Dist	107.80	114.40†	+ 2.30	4.37
(Accum Units)	332.60	352.60	+ 7.00	4.37
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.85	42.22	+ 0.30	6.44

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 236 5685 Enq 0161 236 5685 Dlg 0161 236 5362

American & Gen	161.80	172.20†	+ 6.70	
European Inc	80.45	85.15	+ 0.89	0.53
Smaller Cos (4-1)	81.72	86.94	+ 1.57	1.99
Growth	47.90	50.90	+ 2.40	2.24
Income & Growth	410.50	436.00	+ 8.90	3.96
(Accum Units)	585.80	623.20	+ 9.50	3.96
Japan & Gen	70.35	74.59	– 2.44	
Master Portfolio	£102.87	£105.74†	+$2.00	2.44
(Accum Units)	£122.41	£126.82	+£1.11	2.44
Special Sits	97.31	103.53	+ 0.71	2.23
High Yield	£13.13	£13.54†	+£1.00	4.48

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0700

Cazenove Portfolio	84.43	90.20	+ 0.73	2.44
American Portfolio	95.53	101.87	+ 2.44	1.15
European Portfolio	97.82	104.05†	+ 0.15	0.75
Japanese Portfolio	62.96	66.88	– 2.11	..
Pacific Portfolio	139.30	148.70	+ 9.57	0.95
UK Inc & Growth	75.89	81.48†	+ 0.95	3.29
Utility & Bond	53.68	54.24†	+ 0.72	7.12

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 898 1815

Inv Fund	664.90	697.10	..	4.65
Fd Int Sec	147.90	148.00	..	9.72

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0171 332 3000

UK General Tst	64.52	68.63	+ 1.04	2.90

COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD
0171 588 1815

Inc	684.78	663.17	..	4.72
Accum	828.00	828.34	..	..
Fixed Int Inc	120.55	126.84	..	9.52
Fixed Int Acc	192.95	193.43	..	..

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
0171 937 7997

Int Growth	118.57	127.88	+ 4.15	..
UK Income	104.08	113.82	+ 0.39	5.22

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5995

Beckman Intl	81.66	86.39	+ 4.62	1.47
Beck Bo-Tech	27.28	28.98	+ 0.47	..
Accnt Ethical Tst	149.59	157.08	– 4.26	0.69
City Fin Assets	69.92	73.41†	+ 1.26	1.92
City Fin America	90.03	94.54†	+ 1.70	..
City Fin Intl	76.50	80.84†	+ 3.63	0.89
City Fin Japan	169.58	168.34	– 0.10	..
Friars Hse Cap	372.91	395.64	+ 3.57	1.66
Friars Hse Inc	186.98	203.04†	+ 2.10	4.15
Buckley Wrld Grth	122.76	130.12	+ 2.41	..
Fdmnd Cap Gth	133.76	142.42†	+ 1.89	..
Fdmnwood Int	145.67	155.77†	+ 3.16	..
J Stet Inv/Gth Inc	59.72	58.05	+ 0.12	4.24

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300

Emerging Markets	55.10	58.45	+ 2.58	..

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

American Gwth	61.01	65.25	+ 1.71	
Atlas Mngd Gwth	37.22	39.61	+ 0.88	0.59
Dragon Growth	68.67	72.60	+ 5.18	0.63
Equity High Inc	63.62	68.09	+ 1.74	4.05
(Accum Units)	113.31	120.54	+ 2.35	4.05
European Gwth	53.21	56.81	+ 0.91	1.22
Evergreen	38.39	39.36	+ 0.60	
General Equity	84.72	89.85	+ 1.41	2.82
Managed Gwth	48.68	53.13	– 2.19	
Pedigree Gwth	51.62	54.92	+ 0.98	2.77
Pref Sh Cos Inc	29.99	31.80†	+ 0.42	1.56
(Accum Units)	31.38	33.35	+ 0.44	1.56
Smaller Cos	165.10	175.60	+ 3.20	0.59
Reformed Inc	25.87	27.52	+ 0.53	5.72
Special Sits	37.99	40.41	+ 0.65	2.12
UK & Overseas	48.22	52.36	+ 1.33	1.32

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 898 000

Capital	69.65	74.04	+ 1.22	2.00
Income	62.83	66.80	+ 1.23	4.04

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD
0181 686 9818

PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	156.83	166.97†	+ 2.82	5.18
Fixed & Convertible	38.48	40.94†	+ 0.37	7.34
Monetary Inc Plus	44.76	49.77†	+ 0.37	9.00
Preference Share	44.59	47.44†	+ 0.16	7.96
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	120.86	128.35†	+ 2.14	5.33
Managed Fund	68.33	72.69†	+ 1.61	3.11
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	37.48	39.88†	+ 0.42	2.01
(Accum Units)	43.63	46.41†	+ 0.48	2.01
UK & General	78.82	84.81†	+ 1.39	2.01
(Accum Units)	101.17	107.63†	+ 1.79	3.07
UK Growth	147.38	156.79†	+ 2.63	2.69
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	194.27	206.67†	+ 4.13	0.21
Far Eastern Gwth	127.69	135.84†	+ 4.73	..
Global Bond	78.84	83.78†	+ 1.35	5.96
Japan Growth	113.64	120.89†	– 4.58	..
North Amer Grth	174.60	185.74†	+ 5.65	..
Oriental Growth	77.51	82.45†	+ 0.19	0.10
Worldwide Growth	66.20	70.43†	+ 0.83	0.07
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.92	91.92†	+ 0.08	6.09
Homeowner Fund	78.17	84.25	+ 1.57	1.79
Golden Fund	129.05	137.29	+ 1.68	2.36

For Confederation see Sun Life of Canada

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 407 5996

Consistent Ut	31.10	33.32	+ 0.29	3.33

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 256

Growth	145.70	155.00†	+ 0.40	1.53
Income	69.16	73.58	+ 1.17	4.86
European	92.67	98.66	+ 0.26	0.85
Recovery	161.80	172.00†	+ 2.80	1.83

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 283 9494

Equity Dist	829.50	834.10	..	3.66

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 370

Fellowship Tst	76.84	81.74	+ 1.25	0.45
Income	238.40	253.60†	+ 3.60	4.89
(Accum Units)	599.90	637.70†	+ 9.30	4.89
Smaller Cos	165.10	175.60	+ 3.20	0.59
(Accum Units)	201.88	214.60	+ 3.90	0.59
Inv Portfolio	80.32	85.33	+ 1.28	1.48
High Inc Pen	68.88	74.35	+ 0.99	4.67

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
0171 410 0177

Euro Small Cos	£15.81	£15.18	+44.00	..
Japan Small Cos	£12.13	£12.36	– 1.70	..
UK Small Cos	£17.62	£18.39	+27.30	..
US Small Cos	£19.52	£17.84	+45.80	..

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 377 8819

Disc Inc	200.90	210.69†	+ 2.50	3.04

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0131 315 2500

Enterprise Gwth	282.80	296.70†	+ 2.80	0.53
New Asia	216.40	230.70	+19.80	0.15
Japan Growth	108.70	115.90	– 5.00	..
Jap Smlr Co	427.30	454.50†	–14.20	..
Nth Amer	282.10	298.80	+12.60	0.79
Select Asia Pac Ml	120.70	128.60	+ 0.60	0.35
Uk Inc & Gwth	210.70	224.40†	+ 4.20	2.90

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	143.00	152.10	+ 2.40	1.76
UK High Inc Inc	150.40	160.00†	+ 2.20	4.50
(Accum Units)	195.30	208.80†	+ 2.90	4.50
Uk Prel & Fl Inc	58.00	61.54	+ 0.41	5.69
Evergrnnt Opps	86.43	91.95†	+ 0.61	1.02
UK Smlr Cos	51.99	55.37	+ 1.28	

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 090 636

American	128.40	136.70	+ 2.90	1.28
Commodities	39.38	41.89†	+ 1.20	0.47
Equity Income	128.60	134.50	+ 1.80	3.94
EuroFund	46.66	49.47	+ 0.29	0.40
Financial	44.85	47.85	+ 1.04	1.57
Growth & Inc	237.20	252.00	+ 3.50	3.66
High Dist	153.20	162.80†	+ 1.90	4.81
International	390.70	415.10	+ 7.30	0.12
Int Cap Inc	94.63	101.60†	+ 2.03	2.72
Latin American	28.91	30.72	+ 0.96	..
Pacific	90.48	95.52	+ 5.95	..
Performance Share	21.52	22.95†	+ 0.80	7.32
Tokyo	216.70	230.20	–11.20	..
UK Smaller Cos	224.30	238.30†	+ 1.80	1.15

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
0171 242 0282

Elcon Trust	213.84	228.14	+ 6.17	0.79

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 373 7267

Endurance Fd	201.70	214.60	+ 4.30	0.96

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
01288 431 480

European	62.86	67.22	+ 0.80	1.97
Ethical Tst	42.13	44.35	+ 0.03	1.38
Far Eastern	297.24	312.88	+ 9.56	1.89
High Income	130.01	136.85†	– 0.62	4.86
Intl Growth	118.44	124.67	+ 1.58	1.28
North American	115.38	121.43	+ 2.47	1.29
Pelican	119.51	122.84†	+ 2.15	3.40
Smaller Cos	85.83	88.45	+ 0.58	2.69
Special Sits	86.91	91.48	+ 1.56	2.65
Tst of Inv Tsts	181.05	190.58	+ 3.91	1.81

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 407 5995

Smaller Cos Inc	195.76	203.92†	+ 0.63	1.56
Smaller Cos Acc	344.19	358.44†	+ 1.15	1.56
Technology	48.71	51.78	+ 0.32	1.37
Recovery Acc	50.25	52.34	+ 0.32	1.37

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144

Balanced	108.57	116.50	+ 0.66	6.02
Capital Growth	81.69	87.60	+ 1.66	..
Fd of Inv Tsts	43.95	46.86	+ 0.64	0.62
High Income	48.62	43.60†	+ 0.62	10.55
Recovery	91.95	98.35	+ 1.72	..
Zero Preference	38.52	40.87	+ 0.47	..

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
01273 21 707

Family Asset Tst	78.33	83.32†	+ 1.26	2.99
Family Income Tst	44.36	44.36†	+ 0.83	8.75
Family Trust	85.63	90.96†	+ 2.42	1.75
United Charities	288.80	276.40	+ 3.70	4.82

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
Dublin: Private Clients: 0800 414 161

Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	..	5.70
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	37.08	37.18†	+ 0.05	7.35
Intl Bond	29.47	30.58†	+ 0.43	4.81
Income Funds				
High Income	23.77	25.01†	+ 0.16	4.91
Income Plus	109.84	115.60	+ 2.00	3.80
Managed Inc	49.45	52.33†	+ 1.01	1.65
European Income	42.51	45.20	+ 0.45	1.37
Far East Inc	65.72	69.80	+ 0.64	2.36
Global Convertible	22.49	23.96	+ 0.20	3.29
Global Gwth	24.48	26.03	+ 0.26	1.96
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	64.06	68.36	+ 5.72	
American	257.50	272.80	+ 7.30	..
Amer Spec Sits	121.50	128.70†	+ 3.20	..
European	36.03	38.44	– 1.27	..
European Opps	69.69	67.09†	– 0.23	..
Global Prin	55.51	57.13†	+ 0.63	0.68
Global Spec Sits	80.67	85.41	+ 1.18	..
Growth & Inc	141.90	150.90	+ 2.10	1.97
Japan	97.39	99.76	+ 0.67	..
Japan Spec Sits	88.84	94.47	– 2.09	..
Japan	153.98	155.80	– 7.83	..
Managed Intl	278.10	288.20	+ 4.20	..
Moneybuilder	53.71	56.05	+ 0.69	..
Recovery	47.50	50.54	+ 1.15	..
South E Asia	156.20	166.10	+14.90	..
Sterling Bond	507.80	540.10	+ 4.80	..
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	169.26	169.26	+ 0.05	5.70

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 814 2700

Balanced	136.00	138.80	+ 2.30	1.65
Inc Philo	85.76	87.44	+ 1.20	3.36
Cap Philo	142.00	145.20	+ 2.00	1.54
General Dept	120.50	122.90†	+ 1.80	3.51
Growth Inc	30.50	31.14†	+ 0.45	1.71
Private Portfolio	409.30	418.00	+11.90	1.85

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Enq: 0171 454 1454 Dlg: 01277 291 010

European	1,301.99	127.60	+ 5.90	0.13
Emrg Asian	164.29	175.80	+ 7.50	..
High Income	71.15	22.47†	+ 0.30	10.01
Ocean Income	92.13	97.69	+ 1.19	3.21
UK Growth	108.00	115.50	+ 1.90	1.86
UK Income	108.10	113.30†	+ 2.10	3.73
US Smaller Cos	314.60	336.50	+10.60	0.14

FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
01737 852 352

High Inc Eqty	47.81	50.27	+ 0.83	5.25
ab- Inv Tst Inc	74.56	78.40	+ 1.42	3.53
Int Growth	66.97	70.42†	+ 1.59	..
Investment Trust	88.71	94.33	+ 2.11	..
UK Smaller Cos	83.03	87.31	+ 1.54	0.94

FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
01371 874 4100

American Growth	57.91	61.97	+ 2.57	
(Accum Units)	57.91	61.97	+ 2.57	
Amer Smlr Cos	467.70	521.60	+20.40	..
(Accum Units)	468.20	522.60	+20.80	..
Capital Tst	308.30	327.90†	+ 6.30	1.61

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
0444 458 899 Managing Management 01273 493 9900

S Intl Inc	550.54	585.88	+ 5.84	1.75
(Accum Units)	612.31

Small losses at the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
482	413	Abbey Natl	484	-6	4.6	9.8
298	250	Allied Irish	294	-1	4.7	8.6
245	198	Aus NZ 2	241	-1	4.9	8.5
3237½	2531½	Bank America	3237½	+50		
230	191½	Bank Scotland†	228	-3	3.3	9.8
671	557½	Barclays†	664	-5	4.0	7.2
350	288	Bk of Ireland	349	..	4.7	
500	418	Cater Allen	498	..	7.1	10.3
3212	2450	Citicorp	3212½	+25		
265	219	Close Bros	265	..	3.7	12.0
£158½	£129½	Commerzbank	£153⅝	+1⅛	3.4	
1375	993½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1337½	..	0.5	
£319	£285	Deutsche Bk	£308½	-9⅜	2.4	
875	612½	Espirito Santo	808½	..	10.2	
1611	1192½	Fuji Bank Y	1556	-3½	0.4	
490	395	Gerrard Nat	458	-2	6.6	13.2
253	195	Hambros	210	..	8.5	12.9
810	589	HSBC†	807	+5	4.2	10.1
798	578	HSBC HK†	793	+5½	4.3	10.0
238	196	Irish Perm†	233	+2	2.6	
408	363	Joseph (L)		..	6.1	10.8
103	85	King Shaxson	100	+3	11.2	9.9
693	529	Kleinwort Ben	648	..	4.1	11.5
683	530	Lloyds	675	-7	4.8	11.4
591	479	Nat Aust Bk	578	+4	6.0	9.8
551	454	Nat West	548	-6	4.9	9.2
2400	2150	Ottoman Bank	2375	..	6.6	3.4
56	51	Rea Bros	52	+1	2.4	13.1
431	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	402	..	4.5	11.4
1104½	906½	Schroders▼	1058	+2	1.6	15.1
937	823½	Schroders N/V▼	921	-12	1.9	13.1
93	81	Singer & Fried	92	..	4.8	
340	245	Stand Chart	328	..	3.0	18.1
253	217	TSB	253	-½	4.5	10.8
76	70	Union	73	..	3.6	
896	655	Warburg SG	772	-22	3.6	
£111	9043½	Wells Fargo	£111	+14⅜	2.6	
260½	211	Westpac	259½	+6½	2.2	
265	200	Wintrust	205	..	6.5	13.7

BREWERIES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
162	143	Ascot Hldgs	159			
584	487	Bass	565	-2	4.7	14.0
286	239	Boddington	271	..	4.1	13.9
177	152	Burtonwood Brw	153	..	4.2	12.8
160	137	Eldridge P 'A'	153	..	3.3	18.6
65	51	Fosters Brewing	58	-1	4.9	14.7
398	335	Fuller Sm 'A'	365	+2	2.7	15.1
475	402	Greenalls Grp	475	+5	3.4	15.6
518	458	Greene King	510	..	3.2	13.9
262	240	Hardy Hanson	250	+2	4.7	12.2
170	150	Heavitree	160	..	3.5	11.4
3325	3225	Holt JY	3225			
227	219	Mansfield	227	..	2.3	15.7
312	266	Marston Thmp	289	..	2.6	14.1
465	400	Morland	455	..	2.9	13.7
8½	6½	Paramount†	8	..	3.9	18.9
339	307	Regent Inns	339	..	1.8	22.2
1361½	1287½	SA Breweries	1361½	+12½	1.8	
564	489	Scot & New	554	-6	3.9	15.9
237	211	Vaux Group	230	-2	5.5	12.8
533	448	Wetherspoon JD†	527	..	1.7	24.4
592	521	Whitbread	580	-1	4.4	14.9
534	483	Wolvrhmptn D	534	+3	3.3	13.9
260	186	Yates Bros	254	+1	1.9	20.0
465	450	Young 'A'	455	..	4.1	19.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
150	125	Abbey	135	..	4.9	9.8
170	143	Allen	169	-1	4.1	15.8
78	56	Amec†	70	..	5.4	
185	133	Andrews Sykes	172			
452	412	Ashtead	452	..	1.6	19.3
185	79	Avonside†	82	..	6.7	
38	30	Bailey (Ben) Cont	31	+½	4.2	7.6
45	36	Barcon	38			
195½	158	Barratt Devt	194	..	4.2	13.6
148	122	Beazer Homes	146	..	4.6	11.8
240	180	Bellway	240	+1	3.8	14.1
37	27	Bellwinch	30	..	0.6	18.1
384	315	Berkeley Gp	382	-1	2.4	12.2
182	168	Best Bnst†	180	..	3.5	5.5
245	195	Bovis (Henry)†	200	+5	4.4	8.4
129	93	Brandon Hire	116	..	2.9	19.7
160	120	Br Bldg & Eng	120	..	8.3	16.5
134	105	Bryant	126	-1	5.0	11.9
121	98	CALA	121	+1	3.1	13.8
38	29	Campbell & Arm	37			
54	49	Clarke T	54	..	9.4	13.4
24½	10	Costain	11½			
110	85	Countryside	95	..	5.5	12.0
81	60	Crest Nicholson	68	+1	3.7	9.5
98	86	Cussins†	92½	..	5.7	
25	18	Edmond Hldgs	25	..	0.8	
275	208	Eve Group	223	+8	6.2	9.1
28	20	Galliford	28	..	6.2	
90	85	Gibbs & Dandy	86	..	4.3	
863	828	Gleeson (MJ)†	828	..	2.2	15.8
86	71	Green (Ernst)	71	..	8.9	19.0
215	178	Havelock Euro	214	..	1.8	
178	138	Hewden-Stuart	175	..	2.4	17.2
93	73	Higgs & Hill†	78	+1	4.0	
22	16	Howard Hldgs	16	..	6.2	12.2
12	8½	Jarvis	11	-½		
125	98	Kellert	124	-1	3.2	12.7
223	85	Laing (J)†	202	..	5.6	25.0
97	82	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	82½	..	8.7	
124	115	Lon Clydeside	117	..	5.7	12.4
61	32	Lovell (YJ)	39	..	3.2	4.8
210	185	Mawdes (J)	185	..	3.7	18.2
181	136	McAlpine (A)†	183	+4	4.8	
60	48	McCarthy & S	60	..		21.1
61	51	Morgan Sindall	52			
106	73	Mowlem (J)†	74	..	3.4	33.4
213	153	Persimmon	211	..	5.6	33.5
2400	1700	Peckins	1712½	..	2.3	12.0
126	105	Prowting	125	+2	3.8	
33	23	Raine Ind	29	..	10.8	8.0
48	45	Secure Retire	48	..		14.9
123	93	Redrow	122	+3	2.8	14.3
97	49	Smart (J)†	86	..	1.9	20.3
398	382	Sheriff Hldgs	385	..	2.0	15.2
112½	88	Shorco†	94	..	5.1	
318	258	Spender	305	+5	1.0	21.2
176	155	Tay Homes	159	..	5.2	11.1
130	114	Taylor Woodrw†	124	..	2.3	22.5
568	433	Tilbury Dougls	463	+3	9.4	18.0
59½	52	Tomo Hire	56	..	2.9	18.9
20	16	Try Group†	18	..	6.9	25.3
108	103	Vibroplant	103	..	4.5	18.5
126	97	Wainhomes	112	..	5.5	12.1
80	48	Ward Hldgs	50	..	3.8	7.8
147	123	Westbury	147	..	4.8	13.4
5½	3½	Wiggins	3½			
173	124	Wilson (C)†	170	-2	3.3	12.6
354	308	Wilson Bowden	350	+1	3.6	12.9
138	113	Wimpey G	127½	-1½	5.4	15.5

BUILDING MATERIALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
14	7½	Albrighton	10	..	6.2	16.9
343	331	Alumasc	338	+2	2.5	16.9
52	47	Amberley Gp	51	..	3.1	26.2
324	267½	BPB Ind	286	+2	3.7	14.7
132	122	Baggeridge Brk	131	..	3.0	13.5
36	27	Bardon†	29	..	8.6	17.5
71	52	Brockhouse†	60	..	1.7	
321	255	Blue Circle†	314	-4	4.7	19.4
84	72	Breedon PLC†	83	-1	7.3	11.6
136	119	Br Dredging†	121	..	5.8	14.8
400	338	CRH	400	..	2.5	15.0
46	38	Cakebread Rby	43	..	3.0	
210	196	Cape	197	..	7.0	14.3
273	220	Caradon†	264	..	4.5	13.5
132	114	Caradon wt	129	-1	7.0	
56	24	Chelsea Ep	24	..	15.6	8.9
118	105	Dyson (J&J)	118	..	3.7	17.8
72	63	Dyson 'A'	65	..	6.7	9.8
18½	11½	Eclipse Blinds	16½	+½		15.4
315	274	Evered	314	..	3.5	17.5
62	53	Erith	54	..	5.2	
182	160	Graham Grp†	182	+2	3.6	
344	312	Halstead (J)†	324	..	3.0	14.5
322	262	Hepworth†	322	+2	5.8	15.2
85	80	Hewetson	80	..	2.3	13.9
104½	73	Hewitt (J)	79	..	2.8	
268	239	Heywood Wms	248	..	7.0	11.8
86	75	Ibstock†	78	-3	2.4	
320	262	Johnston	320	..	4.0	
108	85	Lilleshall†	86	+1	7.0	10.3
139½	118½	Marley▼	127	..	4.6	11.9
140	123	Marshalls	140	+2	4.0	12.5
371	289	Meyer Int	348	..	3.9	13.6
178	160	Newman Tonks	176	+1	4.8	16.5
108	76	Norcros	91	..	9.6	17.3
16	12	Phoenix Timber	16			
191½	143	Pilkington	187	-2	2.7	36.0
175	132	Polypipe	169	-4	1.8	17.8
1088	902	RMC Grp†	1073	-2	2.7	15.7
18	8	Rams	8			
470	406	Redland†	456	+4½	4.6	14.5
118½	97½	Rockwl▼	103	..	5.2	15.4
123	104	Rugby Group†	119	..	3.8	14.7
107	88	Russell (A)†	101	..	3.1	14.9
262	222	SIG†	241	..	3.1	
19	11	SWP	17½	..	1.4	
180	171	Sharpe & Fisher†	172	..	3.6	
43	36	Spring Ram†	42	..	1.5	35.1
135	99	Tarmac†	125½	+3½	5.5	16.1
160	150	Titon	150	..	3.9	12.0
298	265	Travis Perkins†	292	+1	3.9	
30	24	Tudor†	30	..	2.1	29.0
44	34	Unigroup	44	+1		
48	33	Waterhouse	35			
115	83	Wickes	112	..	2.0	5.4
400½	324	Wolseley	372	-4	3.0	13.1

BUSINESS SERVICES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2	1½	Anglo Utd	1½			
86	57	App Hols	69			
7½	6½	Bailey (CH)	6½			
54	42	Black Arrow	51	+1	7.6	8.1
84	69	Br Bloodstock	75	..		67.3
6	3	Caird Gp	3½			
6½	4½	Charmer	5½	..	2.3	17.2
153	136	Cosalt	146	+1	7.2	9.6
259½	215	Filofax	255	..	1.0	21.9
43	24	Headway	28	..	3.1	21.8
320	248	Hozelock	319	-1	2.9	15.8
168	132	Leigh	142	+1	6.9	13.1
231	130	Nobo Gp	130	..	6.0	8.4
265	210	Photo-Me	243	..	2.5	23.6
68	53	Plant & Gen	58	..	5.5	
11	7	Rodime	9	..	2.8	
94	73	Shanks & McEwan	93	+½	4.7	14.4
193	160	Sinclair (Wm)	193	+12		
414	241	Waste Mgt Intl	305	-3	..	11.0

CHEMICALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
176	154	Allbright & Wl	175	..	4.3	
135	109	Allied Colloids	135	+1	2.2	19.1
785	780	Amber Ind	783	..	3.4	15.5
£143½	£130⅞	BASF DM	£137⅞	-187½	3.2	
769	689	BOC	765	+2	4.1	18.3
303	236	BTP	284	-1	4.8	18.1
£160½	£141½	Bayer DM50	£152	-234½	3.8	
123	103	Blagden	123	+3	1.5	57.5
118	101	Brent Chems	116½	..	4.5	16.1
256	210	Br Vita	254	+6	3.8	17.0
52	30	Cambridge Isn	45			
214	184	Canning (W)†	211	-1	4.4	
474	401	Courtaulds	445	+2	4.2	30.3
387½	320	Croda†	349	+1	3.2	16.9
181	155	Dowflex	181	+3	3.7	15.4
90	58	Euro Colour	88	+1	2.4	25.8
122	112	Gibbon	114	..	6.0	10.5
145	120	Hickson†	137	..	4.6	13.1
£143½	£123½	Hoechst	£135½	-106½	3.7	
230	190	Holliday Chem	219	..	2.9	15.6
789	680	ICI	763	-7	4.5	34.1
139	97½	Kalon	189	..	4.1	13.5
739	620	Laporte†	724	-3	3.9	15.7
78	76	MTM†	77	..	2.4	13.6
359	293	Manders†	359	..	3.8	16.9
66	30	Metrotect	47	..	9.3	6.4
484½	352½	Montedison	477½	-5	4.0	22.6
363	290	Porvair	346	..	1.7	35.8
227	188	Scapa	227	+1½	3.3	18.4
33	15	Sutcliffe Speak	18	..	4.9	10.7
865½	695½	Takeda Chem	790½	-13½	1.3	9.2
350	315	Wardle Storeys†	330	..	6.7	15.9
193	186	Wellington Hldt	187			
788	728	Wolstenholme Rt	786	+10	3.4	14.6
368	338	Yorks Chem	358	+1	3.0	18.0
289	236	Yule Catto†	288	+2	3.0	

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
110	91	ABI Leis	110	+1	4.6	12.8
595	535	Acatos & Hutch	543	..	3.6	6.8
21	16	Alexanders	20	..	6.2	8.8
113	88	Appleyard	109	..	6.7	
4½	3½	Ass Br Eng	3½	..	1.7	26.8
578	518	BSS Group	578	+1	3.9	20.4
24½	19	Beatley Power	19	..	6.6	9.7
28	23	Boyd 'A'	25	..	3.5	18.5
394	345	Brammer	384	+3	4.2	
21	10½	Bridgend Gp	21	..	1.2	
96	85	Brn Fittings†	85	..	4.4	
48	38	Brown & Tawse	42			
39	28	Burndene	38	+1	6.5	
270	215	Caffyns	245	..	5.8	40.2
98	64	Central Mtr	76	..	4.8	49.9
47	38	Coor (DC)	44	..	3.3	13.5
269	220	Cowie	263	..	4.3	11.3
143	125	Dag Motors†	139	..	6.3	12.2
598	558	Davies Ed	558	..	1.5	19.8
475	408	Diploma	472	..	3.6	18.6
557	472	Electrocomponts	557	..	2.3	22.8
182	153	Electron House	178	-3	2.5	15.6
250	234	Ellis & Everard	238	-2	3.5	18.6
111	97	European Mtr	108	-1	5.7	10.9
401	364	Evans Halshaw†	388	..	4.8	11.5
598	512	Farnell Elect†	508	+1	1.9	
60	48	Tile Indmar	48	..	7.8	
24½	15	Gardner	22½	..	4.4	10.4
26	16	Glenchewton	25	+2	..	28.7
73	61	Gowmnst	65	..	4.3	
73	62	Hatton Hldgs†	68	..	1.8	13.9
172	148	Harris (Philip)	165	..	5.2	14.5
419	359	Henlys	404	+9	2.6	18.8
99	81	Holders Tech†	86	..	7.8	29.4
110	88	ISA Intl†	92	-2	2.6	11.2
430	274	Inchcape†	317	+½	5.9	12.8
66	53	Jacks (Wm)	65	-1	..	15.1
167	142	Kwik-Fit	158½	..	3.5	15.2
339	277	Lex Service	329	..	5.3	17.5
195	164	Lookers	172	..	8.5	9.5
16	14	Malaya Grp	15	..	3.3	35.7
8½	5	Middlesex	5½	..	1.1	
435	330	Norcon	338	-1	0.8	15.1
133	78	Northamber	129	+3	1.9	54.8
195	192	PCT		..	6.5	
255	225	Pendragon	254½	+½	4.0	14.7
161	123	Perry Grp	146	+3	6.4	
155	126	Quick Group†	135	..	5.1	
171	160	REA†	165	..	3.0	19.6
3½	2½	Reeds	3			
6	2½	Rigs Gp	6	+½	4.2	
51½	37½	SEP Intl	48	..	2.7	16.0
54	38	TLS Range†	54	..	3.5	15.0
247	226	Time Products	247	+9	4.7	
225	151	Vardy (Reg)	225	+1	2.9	16.8
263	240	Wholesale Figs	263	+7	5.8	23.4
14½	12½	Wilts Gp	13	..	4.8	7.3
74½	62½	Winchnar	70	..	1.2	23.6
71	56½	Wyns	70	..	1.8	25.3
80	68	Young (H)	78	..	5.8	14.6

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
168	149	Adwest†	168	+1	5.7	14.5
333	235	Amalgamated†	295	..	1.7	25.4
906½	728½	Broken Hill	887	-57	2.7	
343	291	BTR†	337½	-4	4.9	15.6
496	405	BAT†	484	+5	3.5	14.8
270½	216	Bensford Ind	247	..	8.3	65.4
91	71	Bibby (J)	87	..	4.3	18.1
48	40½	Brierley Inv	41	+½	9.0	2.6
847	743	Charter†	839	+16	3.9	13.6
242	185	Cookson▼	238	-1	3.7	15.0
250½	228	Hanson	238	+5	6.0	15.6
162½	136	Harrisons Crsfld	156	..	7.1	19.9
315½	200½	Hutch Whampoa	315	+8½	2.4	
584½	415½	Jardine Math	531	-2	3.0	
33	27	Jourdan (T)	33	+5	4.8	
170	134	Lonrho	168	+1	3.3	30.8
138	113	McLeod Russel	138	+1	5.8	15.1
44	39	Porter Chadburn	40	-2		
524	447	Powell Duffryn	523	..	6.0	14.7
148	123	Raynes	142	+1	7.3	12.3
612	438	Refinrts	609	..	3.8	29.5
15½	10	Sellin	12	+½	..	9.9
169	120	Sime Darby†	166	-3	2.7	20.8
188	164	Staveley	189	..	5.6	58.2
185	148	Suter†	185	+3	8.4	14.5
253	227	TT Group†	248	+1	2.7	15.3
250	214	Tomkins	248	+1½	3.9	15.9
79	50½	Trafalgar H	57	-1½	2.2	
295	285	Unitech	285	..	8.0	
300	241	Wassall†	273	+½	1.9	
188	162	Whitecroft	187	..	2.8	18.3
11½	9	Widney	9½	..	2.8	15.1
350	312	Williams Hldgs†	344	-3	4.9	18.4

ELECTRICITY

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
660	554	East Midlands	659	-1	5.2	27.7
800	535	Eastern Grp	648	+7	4.8	14.2
785	548	London Elect	641	..	4.8	9.8
886	621	Manweb	880	..	5.0	8.1
827	563	Midlands Elec	658	+5	4.7	10.1
496	421½	National Power	481	-2	4.2	12.6
193	158½	Natl Power P/P	187	-2	3.9	13.5
1138	715	Northern Elec	821	+1	5.0	8.5
371	313	NIie Ireland	349	+1	4.3	8.5
867	611	Norweb	879	+15	4.5	8.2
542	457½	PowerGen	488	-2	3.8	10.6
286	176½	PowerGen (P/P)	199	-2	3.8	11.4
335	303	Hydro-Elect	332½	+½	4.9	10.5
350	308½	Scottish Power	341	-2	5.1	8.9
484	304	Seeboard	374	+2	4.3	10.2
912	630	Sth Wales	700	+6	5.2	8.5
888	603	Sth Western	875	+8	4.7	9.8
826	548	Southern Elec	685	+7	4.6	9.0
905	599	Yorkshire Elec	870	+7	5.2	11.5

MINING

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4825	3893½	Ang Am Coal	4181½		2.7	
3740½	2846½	Ang Am	3545½	+9½	2.0	33.2
6487½	4975	Ang Am Gold	5390½	+6½	4.9	14.5
26½	22	Anglo Pac Res	25			
1600	1271½	Ashanti	1553½	-9½	1.0	18.4
117	93	Ashton	108	-2	4.8	
245	155	Billiton	200			
422	337½	Beatrix	381½	-40½	5.0	20.0
34	29	Bisichi	30	..	3.0	
117½	83½	Blyvoors	103½	-1½		
37	27	Bougainville	31	+1		
18	10	Bracken	10½	..	8.5	
583½	353½	Buffels	409½	-4½	12.9	
4	1½	Bulle	2½			
917	781	CRA	869	-23	3.3	20.5

LEISURE & HOTELS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
34	25	Abbots Sth H	25			
448	403	Airtours	415	-4	3.6	9.1
27	17	Ald Leis	26			
149	133	Alpha Airps	149	..	3.9	
47	38	Arcadian†	46	..	3.2	
156	111	Baldwin	156	+3	3.2	11.8
235	219	Barr & Wall	222	..	6.4	
233	210	Bluebird Toys†	214	-2	4.7	6.8
355	323	Boosey Hwks†	355	..	2.1	20.4
3½	2	Brent Walker	3			
185	150	Bristol Scots	150	..	3.8	22.1
26½	12	Carlisle Pic	14½	+½	9.5	8.0
256	251	Chrysalis	253			
86	70½	City Centre Restt	85	-½	2.9	17.0
347	305	Compass Gp	329	+1	2.6	17.2
285	256	Eurocamp	284	..	4.6	12.7
235	118	Euro Disney	232	+1		
165	93	Euro Leisure	117			
450	363½	Fairline Boats	427	..	4.5	19.7
134	105	First Choice	117	..	4.1	30.6
295	282	First Leisure	294	+4	3.0	16.7
251½	224½	Forte†	237	..	4.0	24.3
175	143	Friendly Hotels†	147	+1	4.8	
584	476	Granada	573	-5	2.2	17.1
125	106	Groupe Chez Ger	124	+6	9.5	17.2
38	16	Hi-Tec Sports	24	+1	8.3	
135	86	Hornby†	115	..	5.4	21.5
187½	158½	Jarvis Hotel	161	-1½	3.6	16.3
20½	14½	Kunick	20½	..	3.1	23.3
305	264	London Clubs	305	+5	4.9	15.5
187½	161	Lodbroke†	183	-2½	4.1	
64	41	Magnolia†	44	..	0.3	
160	122	Man Utd†	156	-2	3.4	13.1
97½	84½	Mandarin Ortl	82½	-3½	4.2	18.2
12½	10	My Kinda Town	10	-½	1.2	
82	66	Northern†	78	..	8.4	13.0
83	70	Pelican Gp	77	+3	2.0	16.1
150	121	PizzaExpress	147	..	1.8	18.2
111	81	Prism Leisure	81	..	6.5	5.7
31	25	Quadrant Grp	27			
270	217	Rank Org	268	..	2.1	31.2
433	358	Rank Org	430	-2	3.9	21.1
32	26	Ryan Hotels IE	31	..	5.3	
950	905	Savoy Hotel 'A'†	910	..	1.0	79.9
89	76	Stakis	86	..	2.3	20.2
393	341	Stanley Leisure	393	+4	1.8	21.6
346	280	Tadpole	346	..	1.0	
1303	997	Thorn EMI	1161	-4	3.6	21.6
169	117	Tottenham Hot	123	..	1.0	12.8
183	161	VCH†	183	..	2.9	
156	129	Vardon	155	+1	1.2	22.0
6½	2½	Wembley	2½			
135	95	Zetters Gp	115	..	10.3	9.0

MEDIA

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
370	305	Abbott Mead†	367	..	2.6	
318	276	Adscan	290	..	3.0	18.1
28½	22	Aegis Gp	28½	+½	..	11.4
7½	2½	Allied Radio	2½			
13	11	BBB Design	11	..		30.4
200	155	Barbour Index	168	..	5.5	17.7
6½	5	Birkdale	5½			
325	315	Black (A&C)†	320	+5	5.5	11.3

OTHER FINANCIAL

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
93	75	BWD	88	..	8.0	8.5
132	126	Baltic Plc	131	..	2.9	
78	50	Beny Bco Ntl	52	..	6.3	
158	148	Bisiac Inv	158	+1		

PHARMACEUTICALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
583	425	Brit Biotech	494			
345	103	Cantab Pharms	133			
308	233½	Celltech	302	-5		
144	92½	Chiroscience	144			
44	31	Cortecs	43			
191	103	Fisons†	188	+1	2.9	
749	587	Glaxo Wellcome	744	-1½	4.7	17.8
124	100	Grampian Hldgt	117	-1	6.1	15.0
264	162	Medeva†	232	..	1.8	15.9
1½	½	Premier Health				
254	230	Quality Care	230	..	2.4	11.4
428	273	Scotia	420			
56	32	Shield Diag	51			
532	444	SmithKline	506	+4	3.3	14.9
513	416	Smithkline Uts	485½	+3½	3.3	14.3
1080	550	Wellcome†	1074	+5	2.7	33.1
935	842	Zeneca	918	-13	3.9	20.7

PRINTING & PAPER

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
133	120	AG Holdings†	128	-1	5.4	12.5
437	377	API	437	..	2.6	20.8
283	219	Arjo Wiggins†	275	-3	3.3	14.5
168	162	Aspen Comst†	165	..	4.1	14.7
402	347	Bemrose†	401	+1	4.1	
478	387	Bowater†	462	-6	3.7	14.4
2456½	1675	Bowater Inc	2456½	+53½		
294	260	Bunzl	294	..	1.9	15.4
555	474	Br Polythene†	555	..	3.1	14.8
40	22	Br Thornton	37	..	6.8	3.2
148	112	Britton Grp†	147	-1	2.1	16.8
201	159	Bunzl†	189	-2	3.3	15.7
156	139	Capital Inds†	149	..	3.9	10.6
2469½	2046½	Carrand Mel	2443½	+134½	2.3	
282	237	Cropper (James)	238	..	1.8	12.6
1054	864	De La Rue	913	+10	2.9	16.6
80	52	Delyn Group	52	..	4.8	9.4
105	83	Dolphin Packt	105	..	5.4	
92	81	Fairway Group	86	..	5.1	14.3
340	285	Ferguson Intl	339	..	4.7	13.6
125	102	Ferry Pick	123	..	5.9	12.0
166	138	Inveresk	166	..	4.2	
295	245	Jarvis Porter	267	..	2.6	17.4
479	381	Low & Bonar	477	+1	3.0	15.9
54	50	MY Holdings†	51	-½	4.2	12.4
281	229	Macfarlane†	281	+5	2.1	20.6
178	150	Photobition	178	+5	4.2	12.9
216	183	Phyps	216	+3½	4.1	35.2
363	324	St Ives Grt	359	+4	2.4	19.5
1339½	978	Sappi	1327½	-2	0.4	
9½	5½	Seril	7½			
205	139	Sidlaw	146	+3	9.7	7.1
590	490	Smith David	588	-1	2.6	17.9
405	355	Smurfit (Jeff)†	369	-1	2.0	
99	92	Specific	93	..	3.7	9.6
40	31	Unit Group	35			
253	213	Wace†	297	..	2.8	11.9
216	187	Waddington (J)	191	..	5.2	82.3
414	350	Wassall	389	+3	2.5	
148	136	Wyndham	147	..	2.5	18.7

PROPERTY

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
93	71	Allied Lon†	72	..	6.7	8.8
271	255	Argent	271	+4		
77	67	Asscian Ests	77			
118	103	Asda	118	+3	2.8	36.8
252	211	Bilton†	244	..	5.1	17.5
215	177	Bisby	177	-1	4.8	15.4
24	7	Bolton Gp.A	22			
73	48	Bourne End	57	..	2.4	
196	171	Bradford	178	+1	4.8	14.8
123	113	Brightstone	115	..	4.0	58.8
398	354	Br Land	378	-6	2.6	35.9
187	184	Brixton†	182	+1	5.8	17.1
110½	81	Burford	109	+5	2.8	18.3
181	97	CLS Hldgs†	98	..	4.3	13.4
148	131	Cap & Regnl†	147	..	1.8	
209	187	Cap Shop Cts	209	+1	4.2	24.9
226	158	Cardiff Prop	158	..	2.1	36.1
29½	18	Cathay Intl	18½			
168	143	Chelsfield†	168	..	1.9	36.5
453	438	Chesterfield	449	..	3.7	
88	62	Clarendon Inv	64	..	6.4	10.8
53	45	City Site Ests	48			11.2
8	5	Clarke Nickolls	7	..	3.8	10.5
77½	50	Compco	70	..	7.1	6.2
29	19	Con Rntos	22	..	3.7	25.8
1195	1180	Daejan	1185	..	3.1	12.2
5	3½	Dares Estates	4			
6½	5½	De Morgan	6½			
85	61	Debenham Tewn	74	..	5.8	11.7
193	163	Dencora	168	..	3.2	
273	225	Derwent Valley†	273	+4	2.3	14.2
19½	13	Development Sec	13½			
48	38	Dwyer	48			
36	18	Elvin	27	..	2.5	17.5
370	250	Estates Agency	369	..	4.7	
27	16	Estates Gen	18½			
112	92	Evans Of Leeds	97	..	3.4	16.2
86	79½	Ex-Lands	80	..	2.5	28.8
85	64	Fiscal Propt	65	..	3.6	60.6
25	23½	Five Oaks†	24	..	3.1	10.1
32	19	Fletcher King	21	..	8.9	10.4
47	41	Folkes Group†	43	..	4.6	
46	34	Folkes Group nvf	42	..	4.7	
460	405	Frogmore	459	+4	4.7	17.6
260	236	Grainger	260	..	2.8	14.3
193	154	Gt Portland	181	+1	3.5	31.0
138	117½	Greycoat	139	-3	0.6	
39	22	Hambro Cntywd	35	..	0.2	
347	310	Hammerson†	331	-3	3.8	23.1
319	300	Helical Bar†	314	+1	2.6	
28½	22½	Henderson†	26½	..	1.9	20.8
21	7	Herring Baker	12	..	10.4	
50	31	High-Point	38	..	3.3	
141½	109	HK Land	139½	-½	5.2	
180	153	Jermyn	154	..	0.4	
607	545	Land Sec	597	-5	5.1	17.1
326	305	London Indl	305	..	4.1	18.7
37	30	Lon & Assoct	33	..	2.6	
9	5½	Lon & Metro	6	..		0.2
95	86	Lon Merch Sec	89	+1	3.8	14.8
407	365	MEPC	386	-8	6.5	22.6
7½	5½	McInerney A	6½			
165	130	McKay Secs	130	..	5.0	12.4
66	48	Mcfauls Mrs	65	..	5.2	7.8
32	25	Moorfield Est	28	..	4.8	12.2
1125	850	Mountview	925	..	3.0	7.1
148	124	Mucklow (A&J)†	133	..	6.0	17.4
1	½	ORB	1	..		1.3
32	23	Olives Prop	26	..	1.5	
143	126	PSIT	127	..	4.6	17.0
249	204	Peel	208	+1	2.9	28.1
173	145	Pillar Prop	172	-1	2.7	
2½	1½	Power Corp	1½			
6½	4½	Premier Land	4½	..		16.6
86	70	RPS Group	84	+1	4.3	11.7
34	23	Raglan	27	..		8.6
28	19½	Regalian	19½	..		4.8
155	108	Rowlinson Secs	125	+5	1.9	8.9
101	86	Rugby Est†	98	..	2.8	
50	40	St Modwen Prp	50	..	4.0	9.0
65	54	Saville Grdn (J)	55	..	8.4	13.1
82	43	Smith	62	..	4.5	10.0
75	67	Scot Met	73	..	4.3	12.6
90	86	Shaftesbury	88	..	1.4	15.2
238	208	Slough Estates†	218	-2	4.7	24.2
210	185	Smart (J)	185	..	5.7	19.4
55	41	Southend Prop	41	-1	7.4	
110	103	Specty Shops	106	..	1.5	
42½	36	TBLA	40	..		1.9
187	162	Tops Ests	162	..	1.7	41.3
100	94	Town Centre	98	-1	3.9	17.5
89	79	Trafford Park	88	+1	4.5	14.4
23	16	Trencherwood	18	..		7.1
48	38	UK Land	45			
217	192	Warner	198	-1	7.3	19.3
230	225	Warnford	230	..	4.2	19.0
74	63	Wates	68			
35	25	Whitney Mck	25			
66	43	Wood John D	45	..	5.6	9.7
19	5	YRM	5			

OIL & GAS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
47	42½	Aran Energy	44			
40½	18	Arcon Intl.A	22			
56½	41	Ass Oil & Gas	54½	+½		
56	47	Aviva Pet	56			
286	220	Br Borneo†	278	-6	3.4	12.8
417½	369½	British Gas†	302½	+4	6.0	33.2
471	382	Br Petroleum	461½	-7½	2.9	16.3
3	2½	Bula Resources	2½			
800	815	Burmah Castrol	869	-3	4.2	15.6
91	71	Cairn Energy	90			
280	252	Calor Gp	268	..	6.0	13.6
48	36	Clyde Petr	46½	-½	2.7	20.8
10½	5½	Copiex Res	10½	+1½		
2½	1½	Dragon Oil	1½			
22	18½	Edlis Oil & Gs	19	..		31.7
424	372½	Enterprise†	412	-7	4.9	38.1
280	239	Flogas	249	..	5.2	
6	5	Fortune	5½			
75	82	Goal Pet†	73½	+½	2.6	24.1
42	24	Gt Western Res	24			
178	129	Hardy O & G	176	..	0.7	22.5
55	38	Kelt Energy	50			
180	139	Lasmo	169	-5	0.7	
56	33	Lasmo Units	39	..	26.8	
85	55½	Monument	84			
7½	4½	New London	4½			
2575	2134½	Norsk Hydro	2584½	+15½	1.5	
5	3	Oceanics	3½			
48	38	Oil Search	45	+1		
38½	27½	Petrox	38½	+½		
27½	23	Premier	27½			
43	11	Presidio	11			
86	58	Plantchol Rs	85			
389	221	Ramco Egy	368	+2	0.3	
453	355	Ranger	420	+2	4.8	
8065½	6865½	Royal Dtch R	7871½	-103½	4.4	15.0
4053½	3218½	Schlumberger	4000	-15½	2.4	
49	29	Scott Pickford	35	..	3.2	6.7
98	84	Seafield	98			
774	687	Shell†	757	-10	4.5	16.8
116	116	Sunrise Eng Sv	#116			
4228½	3234½	Total	4093½	+65½	3.7	
10½	8½	Villiers Grp	10			
264	221	Woodside	256	-1	1.5	
58	33	XCL	35			

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
582	491	Allied Domecq	543	-5	5.2	14.7
422	390	Bulmer (HP)	413	..	3.3	22.6
121	99	Burn Stewart	106	..	5.9	21.8
410	352	Grand Met	395	+6	4.6	17.6
479½	404	Guinness†	476	+2	3.6	15.0
445	337	Highland Distly	360	-1	2.6	16.2
217	175	Macallan-Glent	183	..	0.9	44.4
710	600	Macdon Mart 'A'	675	..	1.8	29.0
603	532	Matthew Clark	603	+5	3.9	27.7
88	61	Merrydown W	84	..	3.7	
168	129	Taunton Cider	165	+5½	5.1	12.9

SUPPORT SERVICES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
110	73	ACE Group	110	..	6.0	11.6
740	620	ADT	728	+3	..	27.5
41	34	Anchorage	38			
74	43	Anglo Sec	49			
127	101½	BET Ord	126½	+½	3.4	18.1
178	143	BNB Resr	152	..	4.5	
260	220	BPP	260	+1	4.6	
186	131	BSM	157	+2	5.1	12.2
5	4½	Black & Edg	4½			
700	500	Borland	625			
215	105	Brit Data Mgt	133	+1	5.1	9.4
87	59	Brooks Service†	85	..	4.3	
98	75	CBT Grp	98	..	4.3	24.1
188	138	Capita Group	186	+3	2.2	19.1
317	277½	Chubb Sec	315	..	2.6	18.3
260	223	Comp People†	260	..	1.4	
86	51	Corp Services†	84	..	3.0	13.3
81	48	Coutts Cnsltg†	60	..	3.1	
241	204	Davis Service†	241	+8½	4.4	14.8
75	66	Dudley Jenkins	67	..	6.2	12.7
94	41	EW Facts	81	..	15.0	5.7
143	136	El Data Pic	140	..	1.8	13.7
312	280	Hays†	308½	-½	2.6	18.4
190	145	Hogg Robinson	181	-1	5.0	11.8
1693½	1628½	ISS B Dkk	1668½	-37½	1.3	17.5
168	152	JBA Hldgst	168	..	2.5	
255	227	Johnson Clean	254	..	5.3	
111	85	Kalamazoo	98	..	4.4	11.1
296	239	Kewill Sys	296	..	3.2	10.8
19	15	Laser-Scan	15	-2		
188	77	LBMS	167	-1		
5	2	Lep	3			
361	301	Logica	361	+2	1.9	19.4
107	85½	MDIS	91	+3½	8.8	19.9
208	184	MMT Comp	195	+2	3.6	15.3
128	79	MR Data Mngt	93	..	7.4	11.5
436	366	Mecca 4	436	+13	5.9	12.3
2140½	1634½	Manpower	1715½	-3½	0.2	
840	678	Micro Focus	695	..		21.7
127	102	Microgen	127	+3	7.1	13.8
425	286	Misys	359	..	3.0	11.2
227	197	MITIE Gp	227	..	1.4	23.1
28	22	Novo Group	22½	..	1.1	8.6
25	17	OIS Intl	21	..	3.6	
24	18	Ottos	18	..	3.8	
104	74	P & P†	100	-2	3.2	12.2
129	110	Michael Page†	128	+2½	2.8	14.3
139	108	Pearly†	133	+3	1.6	
173	138	Pegasus	173	..	2.7	12.7
110	93	Pervo	99	..	5.4	
73	57	Pressfloont	62	..	8.1	
305	280	RCO	288	+3	7.5	8.9
41	33	Redland?	40	..	3.3	13.9
183	150	Real Time	164	..	3.0	12.5
144	123	Reed Executive	144			
150	142	Reliance Sec	149	+1	4.2	22.7
283	212½	Rentokil†	280	..	1.7	22.1
143	135	Ricardo Group	141	..	5.3	17.6
185	150	Rolfe & Nolan	185	+1	3.0	28.3
970	862	Sage Grp†	970	+5	1.5	21.2
290	229	Salvesen (C)	260	-3	3.9	13.4
93	79	Sanderson Elec	92	..	3.9	13.3
24	12	Select App	14			
410	386	Serco Gp	386	..	1.3	
293	238	Serco Gp	291	+8	1.7	24.2
201	158	Servisair†	190	-5	2.6	
144	80	Shared Cmpt	143	..	1.7	
94	83	Shirlaw?	89	..	4.5	15.0
18½	11	Standard Pltd	15			
187	167	Sterl-Plnst†	187	+1	6.4	17.5
265	116	Unigate	218	-20		
16	11½	Visbc	14	..	3.8	7.6
49	40	WSP Hldgs	48	..	5.2	12.8
295	245	Warner Howrd	284	+2	3.6	

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
411½	364½	BT	406½	-1	5.3	16.8
427	359½	Cable Wireless	423	..	2.5	17.3
1540	1480	Securicor	1488	..	0.3	34.2
1003	908	Securicor 'A'	910	-2	0.5	20.8
828	728	Security Serv	801	..	1.0	22.4
188	147	Telewest	156	+1		
212	177½	Vodafone	198	-3	1.9	25.6

TEXTILES & APPAREL

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	66	Albion	71	+1	5.6	3.8
148	115	Alexdra W	147	..	5.2	16.2
259	223	Allied Text	240	..	3.5	14.7
84	72	Atkins	81	..	12.5	25.7
34	31	Automagic	31	..		7.8
245	200	Baird (Wm)	241	-3	5.0	16.1
47	38	Beckman (A)†	40	..	10.6	
282	229	Black (Peter)	257	-1	2.2	15.0
121	111	Bridport-Gndry†	111	..	3.5	13.2
206	180	Br Mohair†	206	+1	5.5	13.7
26	24	Carpets Intl	#25			
84	68	Cassidy Bros	73	..	4.7	9.4
185	171	Claude Phipps	173	..	5.3	22.7
223	282	Claremont Grt	318	..	3.5	15.5
218	166	Coats Viyella†	210	-2	5.1	14.3
489	410	Courtauld Txt	483	+5	3.9	15.0
136	126	Dallyvale	130	..	8.0	6.6
124	92½	Dawson	119	..	3.2	
172	129½	Dewhirst (I)†	171½	-½	1.9	
41	30	Dobie Heslt	36	..	4.9	
36½	25	Drummond	36	+1	..	16.1
28	13	Ebbal	18			
66	50	Foxpel	50	-2	12.2	8.1
380	260	FII	378	..	4.9	28.7
151	146	Forminster	151	..	2.7	12.7
21	17	Foster (John)	20			
95	85	French	85	..	5.3	11.6
102	72	Gent SR	98	..	3.0	21.8
103	85	Hagges	102	-1	3.7	14.0
17	7½	Hardcore	11½	-½	3.4	
27	21	Helene Plc	23	+½	10.9	9.5
241	213	Hicking Pntcst	223	..	2.8	15.8
28	21	Holtest	24½	..	3.1	
71	53	Honeysuckle	53	..	7.1	6.1
132	80	Horace Small	124	-1	..	9.9
210	187	Jacques Vert	204	..	3.2	8.4
69	58	Jerome (S)†	69	..	2.7	7.5
378	327	Jones Stroud	377	..	3.0	18.3
147	118	Lambert†	130	..	6.8	
358	283	Lamont	350	+4	4.7	16.5
274	241	Leeds	280	..	3.0	13.5
73	63	Leslie Wise Gp	70	..	7.8	12.6
64	59	Lyles (S)	64	..	4.9	7.2
27	23½	Malling	24	..	3.4	
10	10	PEX	10			
188	135	Parkland	159	-2	4.4	
126	102	Pentland	121	+1	3.3	18.2
73	58	Pittards†	58	..	4.5	15.7
87	58½	Readicut	58	..	6.4	11.3
85	81	Rexmore	83	..	3.8	8.7
51	43	Richards	50	..	5.0	
78	50	SEET	71			
101	75	Sherwood Grt	101	+3	4.0	
142	123	Stilcolt	134	..	3.5	
106	90	Sirdar	104	..	6.6	14.6
56	51	Stirling Gp	55	..	4.4	15.2
21	14	Strong & Fisher†	14	..	8.9	10.3
48	34	UK Sdayt	40	..	8.1	49.8
172	114	Usher (Frank)	160	-2	8.2	9.4
143	109	Worsted†	133	..	4.1	14.5
280	244	Yorklyde	280	..	3.3	

RETAILERS, FOOD

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
82½	64½	ASDA Group	81	..	2.8	18.9
298	254½	Argyll	289	+3	4.9	12.7
583	455	Booker	578	..	1.6	19.2
37	23	Budgen	30½	-½	4.1	18.5
14½	11½	Cullens	14½	+½		
82½	58½	Dairy Farm Intl	58½	-3½	6.6	8.5
355	343	Fitch	350	..	2.5	18.1
55	38	Flowelen	45	..	6.4	18.0
110	88	Fyffes	105	..	1.8	15.0
199	154	Geest	175	+1	5.9	13.5
1168	1048	Greggs†	1140	+2	2.5	15.9
182	142	Iceland Group†	178	-1	2.9	10.7
611	519	Kwik Save	584	+4	4.2	10.4
18½	10	Merchant Retail	15½			
147	132	Morrison (W)†	145	..	1.0	14.7
191	126	Austin Reed†	188	+6	4.8	
128	99	Park Foods	107	+1	3.0	20.6
3	1½	Regina Hlds	1½			
445	403½	Sainsbury J	405	+1	3.4	14.3
281	238	Tesco†	273	-1½	3.9	13.3
175	142	Thorntons	165	..	3.8	13.5
409	358	Watson& Philip	409	+16	4.7	15.9

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
32	21	Alexon	26			
239	205	Alldays	239	+2	3.5	13.5
430	324	Argos Plc†	429	+1	3.1	18.2
86	63	Ashley (Laura)	79	+½		
140	65	Aspley	82	-2	5.2	8.8
225	205	Austin Reed†	212	..	3.5	
146	123	Beattie (J) 'A'	145	..	5.7	15.5
122	111	Bentalls†	112	..	2.4	
52	38½	Blacks Leisure†	42½	-½	7.8	
35	30	Blacks Leo	34	..	8.3	
194	149	Body Shop	140	-3	2.2	
531	465	Boots	527	-2	3.7	16.8
3	1	Brown & Jackson	1½			
239	205	Brown (N)	225	..	2.7	
79½	66	Burton	79½	+1	3.1	39.2
115	82	Caldos	93	..	5.4	13.9
276	235	Carpetright	259	+1	4.0	18.4
178	132	Chetties Intl	169	..	1.6	
480	460	Church	455	..	3.8	19.0
96	67	Clinton Cards†	85	..	6.9	8.3
110	84	City Centre	109	..	5.1	
813	763	Courts Fmnish	770	+2	1.0	39.2
197	183	Crown Eyes	193	..	6.5	8.1
281	238	DFS Furniture†	259	..	3.3	21.8
249	188	Dixons Grp	238	-1	3.5	25.3
580	580	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	..	4.0	

TRANSPORT

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
70	61	Air London†	69	..	6.3	13.1
768½	625½	All Nippon Air	696½	-11½	0.3	
298	262	Assoc Br Ports	294	-3	2.3	18.7
496	414	BAA	486	-4½	2.4	18.6
155	130	Badgerline†	144	..	3.9	14.6
100	48	Berkeley Bus	49			
495	348	Br Airways	433	-2½	3.3	10.7
51	25	Central Tran R	49	+1		
115	93	Clarkson (H)	110	..	2.3	
179	153	Clydeport†	175	..	2.5	18.1
167	142	Dart	167	..	2.5	16.1
230	193	Eurodollar	230	+4	4.6	18.0
324	179	Eurotunnel Uts	203	-7		
65	50	Fisher (James)†	65	..	1.9	13.6
541	498	Forth Ports†	540	+6	2.3	
285	230	GBT Burt	271	..	2.8	
226	166	Go-Ahead	226	+11	2.2	24.4
249	199	Goode Durrant	248	+8	3.2	19.5
135	102	Isle Steam	102	-1	5.4	13.4
69	52	Jacobs (J)†	59	+2	2.2	
77	67	Lon O'Seas Frs	72	..	6.6	1.7
438	358	Mersey Docks	438	..	3.0	17.3
189	158	NFC†	180	+1	4.9	18.5
386	289	Natl Express	386	+6	2.9	
319	261	Ocean Group†	315	+2	5.7	28.6
83	68	Ocean Wilson	83	..	4.8	12.0
612	549	P & O Dfd†	594	+10	6.4	15.8
193	167	P & O 5.5%	190	-2	3.8	
93	87	Sceptre	91	..	3.3	47.0
238	186	Stagecoach	215	..	2.5	21.4
110	79	TNT	88	-3		
713	500	Tibbet & Britten†	525	..	3.9	12.3
229½	184	TDG	227	-2	3.8	15.2
128	92	Ugland	106	..	2.8	
110	90	Utd Carriers†	110	..	3.8	

WATER

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
520	443	Anglian	498	+5	5.9	11.3
349	295	Mid Kent Hlgs	321	..	4.6	10.8
575	483	North West	572	+6	5.2	8.2
958	678	Northumbrian	908	+16	3.6	9.7
564	475	Severn Trent	549	+14	5.4	9.0
2206	1855	South Staffs	2205	..	3.1	13.3
527	459	South West	509	+8	6.4	7.5
605	517	Southern	603	+13	4.9	8.7
504	458	Thames	495	+6	6.0	7.3
679	587	Welsh	620	+11	5.3	6.8
312	252	Wessex	292	+4	5.2	7.6
580	472	Yorkshire	558	+9	5.3	8.2

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
101⅛	100⅜	Exch 10¼% 1995	100⅜	...	10.18	6.32
104⅝	102⅝	Treas 12¾% 1995	102⅝		12.39	6.75
106⅞	104⅝	Treas 14% 1996	104⅝	-⅛	13.36	6.80
109⅛	107⅛	Treas 15¼% 1996	107⅛	-⅛	14.18	7.08
107⅛	105⅛	Exch 13¼% 1996	105⅛	...	12.62	7.10
103⅝	103⅝	Conv 10% 1996	103⅝		9.68	7.37
98⅝	97⅝	Treas 7% 1997	98⅝		7.07	7.58
109⅝	108⅝	Treas 13¼% 1997	108⅝		12.17	7.55
105⅝	104⅝	Exch 10½% 1997	104⅝	+⅛	10.03	7.58
102⅝	101⅝	Treas 8¾% 1997	101⅝	+⅛	8.58	7.73
116⅝	114⅝	Exch 15% 1997	115⅝	+⅛	12.98	7.86
105⅝	102⅝	Exch 9¾% 1998	104⅝	+⅛	9.35	7.93
98⅝	96⅝	Treas 7¼% 1998	98⅝	+⅛	7.38	7.93
97⅝	94⅝	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	96⅝	+⅛	6.97	7.93
118	114⅝	Treas 14% 1998-01	115⅝	+⅛	12.11	8.07
122⅝	120⅝	Treas 15½% 1998	121⅝	+⅛	12.72	7.84
112⅝	109⅝	Exch 12% 1998	111⅝		10.73	8.00
104⅝	100⅝	Treas 9½% 1999	104⅝	+⅛	9.09	8.04
113⅝	111⅝	Exch 12¼% 1999	113⅝		10.79	8.09
109⅝	105⅝	Treas 10½% 1999	108⅝		9.71	8.06
95⅝	89⅝	Treas 6% 1999	92⅝		6.49	8.00
108⅝	105⅝	Conv 10¼% 1999	107⅝		9.51	8.13

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
104⅛	100⅝	Conv 9% 2000	103⅝	...	8.68	8.02
100⅝	98⅝	Treas 8% 2000	99⅝	...	8.02	8.03
120⅝	117	Treas 13% 2000	119⅝		10.84	8.16
109⅝	104⅝	Treas 10% 2001	108⅝		9.25	8.19
94⅝	90⅝	Treas 7% 2001	94⅝	...	7.43	8.15
109⅝	103⅝	Treas 9¾% 2002	107⅝	...	9.09	8.26
99⅝	94⅝	Treas 8% 2003	98⅝	...	8.12	8.23
110⅝	105⅝	Treas 10% 2003	109⅝	-⅛	9.18	8.30
114⅝	110⅝	Treas 11½% 2001-04	114⅝		10.06	8.39
78⅝	73	Fund 3½% 1999-04	77⅛	-⅛	4.52	6.82
108⅝	103⅝	Conv 9½% 2004	107⅝	-⅛	8.81	8.28
91⅛	88⅝	Treas 6¾% 2004	90⅝	-⅛	7.46	8.19
103⅝	97⅝	Treas 8½% 2005	102⅝	-⅛	8.32	8.21
108⅝	103⅝	Conv 9½% 2005	108⅝		8.76	8.28
124⅝	119⅝	Treas 12½% 2003-05	124⅝		10.08	8.48
97⅝	92⅝	Treas 7¾% 2006	96⅝	-⅛	8.03	8.22
99⅛	95⅝	Treas 8% 2002-06	98⅝	-⅛	8.14	8.21
118⅝	113⅝	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	118⅝	-⅛	9.95	8.47
102⅝	97⅝	Treas 8½% 2007	102	-⅛	8.33	8.21
131⅝	125⅝	Treas 13½% 2004-08	130⅝	-⅛	10.31	8.44
107⅝	101⅝	Treas 9% 2008	105⅝	-⅛	8.48	8.21
98⅝	94	Treas 8% 2009	98⅝	-⅛	8.15	8.21

LONGS (over 15 years)

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
84⅝	79⅝	Treas 6¼% 2010	83⅝ †	-⅛	7.52	8.17
107⅛	101⅝	Conv 9% 2011	106⅝	-⅛	8.45	8.34
107⅝	102⅝	Treas 9% 2012	106⅝	-⅛	8.42	8.23
77⅛	72⅝	Treas 5½% 2008-12	76⅝	-⅛	7.18	8.01
99⅛	93⅝	Treas 8% 2013	97⅝	-⅛	8.17	8.20
95⅛	81⅝	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	95⅝	-⅛	8.11	8.18
105⅝	100⅝	Treas 8¾% 2017	105⅝	-⅛	8.27	8.17
134⅝	127⅝	Exch 12% 2013-17	133⅝ †	-⅛	8.98	8.38

UNDATED

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
43⅝	40⅝	War Ln 3½%	42⅝	+⅛	8.15	...
30⅝	28⅝	Treas 2½%	29⅝		8.35	...

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
208⅝	201⅝	Treas IL 2% 1996	208⅝	+⅛	1.39	3.49
190⅝	186⅝	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	189⅝	+⅛	2.47	3.51
173⅝	165⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2001	173⅝	+⅛	3.05	3.58
168⅝	161⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2003	168⅝	+⅛	3.20	3.59
119⅝	108⅝	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	119⅝	+⅛	3.22	3.59
178⅝	168⅝	Treas IL 2% 2006	178⅝	+⅛	3.39	3.58
161⅝	152⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2009	161⅝	+⅛	3.34	3.60
167⅝	157⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2011	167⅝	+⅛	3.40	3.61
138⅝	129⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2013	138⅝	+⅛	3.41	3.61
147⅝	137⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2016	147⅝	+⅛	3.45	3.64
141⅝	131⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2020	141⅝	+⅛	3.49	3.65
118⅝	109⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2024	118⅝	+⅛	3.48	3.62
117⅝	108⅝	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	117⅝	+⅛	3.50	3.64

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Material planning consideration

Tesco Stores Ltd v Secretary of State for the Environment and Others

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Ackner, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Lloyd of Berwick and Lord Hoffmann

[Speeches May 11]

Where a planning obligation offered by a developer under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as substituted by section 12 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991, related to a development, it was a material consideration within section 70(2) of the 1990 Act and regard should be had to it.

When a planning authority had regard to such an obligation the authority was entitled to give it such weight as the authority thought appropriate bearing also in mind its own established practice.

The courts were not concerned with the part the authority's consideration of the obligation played in the planning decision since such decisions were within the discretion of the planning authorities and the secretary of state.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal by Tesco Stores Ltd from a decision dated May 25, 1994 of the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Beldam and Lord Justice Steyn), whereby appeals from a decision dated July 7, 1993 of Mr Nigel Macleod, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge in the Queen's Bench Division, by the Secretary of State for the Environment and the third respondent, Tarmac Provincial Properties Ltd were allowed.

Tesco gave a notice of motion under section 288 of the 1990 Act seeking an order that the decisions of the secretary of state given by letter dated April 16, 1993 be quashed.

By that letter the secretary of state dismissed Tesco's appeal and refused to grant planning permission for a food superstore on part of the Henry Box Playing Fields, Station Lane, Witney and allowed Tarmac's appeal and granted outline planning permission for a food retail store at Mount Mills, Wilton Way, Witney.

Tesco maintained that in paragaphs 7 and 8 of the letter the secretary of state discounted Tesco's offer of funding for the West End Link road and in doing so he failed to take into account a relevant consideration. The deputy judge made the order sought.

West Oxfordshire District Council, took no part in the proceedings.

Mr Roy Vandermeer, QC and Mr Christopher Katkowski for Tesco; Mr Duncan Ouseley, QC and Mr John Hobson for the secretary of state; Mr Christopher Lockhart-Mummery, QC, and Mr Richard Drabble for Tarmac.

LORD KEITH said that Tesco and Tarmac applied to the local planning authority for planning prmission to build a retail food superstore in Witney, Oxfordshire, each on a different site.

There had previously been a local plan inquiry into certain proposed alterations to the development plan. One of them related to a proposed new road to the west of the town of Witney.

The town straddled the River Windrush. There was only one bridge over that river and as a result there was severe traffic congestion in the centre of the town which was a conservation area.

The proposed new road was the West End Link road, including a new river crossing and its purpose was to relieve the traffic congestion. Another proposed alteration to the plan was to provide for a major retail food superstore in the town centre.

The inspector issued a report approving the West End Link road and rejecting the proposal for a retail food superstore in the town centre. Tesco, Tarmac and other developers had taken part in the inquiry, opposing the town centre superstore and promoting the merits of their own sites outside the town for such a store.

The inspector did not make any formal recommendations about those sites but he held that development of a retail food superstore on one only of those sites would be beneficial. He expressed a preference for Tesco's Henry Box site.

He also expressed the view that funding for the West End Link road was unlikely to come from the highway authority and he recommended a policy statement including reference to the district council's intention to negotiate with developers funding for the West End Link road or a major contribution to it, before a superstore went ahead.

Tarmac's application for planning permission was not determined by the local planning authority within the statutory period, and so became the subject of an appeal to the secretary of state, who then called in Tesco's application for the Henry Box site.

In July 1992 a public inquiry was held by Mrs S. E. Hesketh. It was contended that without the construction of the West End Link road there was a fundamental constraint to the development of a superstore because of the traffic congestion situation, and that full private funding of £6.6 million must be provided. Tesco offered to provide the full funding for the West End Link road.

The inspector recommended that Tesco's application should be granted and Tarmac's appeal dismissed.

On April 16, 1993 the secretary of state issued a decision letter in which he rejected the inspector's recommendation.

He allowed Tarmac's appeal regarding the Mount Mills site and dismissed Tesco's application for the Henry Box site.

In paragraph 7 of the decision letter the secretary of state accepted that a new food store would result in additional traffic but thought that such an increase would be less than 10 per cent.

He took the view that it would be unreasonable to seek even a partial contribution from developers towards the cost of the West End Link road and that, since the offer of funding failed the test of Annex B of Circular 16/91, it could not be treated either as a reason for granting planning permission to Tesco or for dismissing Tarmac's appeal.

Paragraph 8 stated if he was wrong in that conclusion, he would conclude that the extent to which the funding should be taken into account, assuming that it had to be taken account at all, would be of such a limited nature that, even upon taking the benefit into account, the balance of the arguments would not be tipped so as to change his decision.

Tesco took proceedings against the secretary of state, under section 288 of the 1990 Act, to quash the decision letter on the grounds that (i) the secretary of state had wrongly discounted the preference of the local planning inspector for the Henry Box site and the local planning authority's acceptance of that and (ii) the secretary of state by discounting Tesco's offer of funding for the West End Link road had failed to take account of a material consideration within section 70(2).

An offered planning obligation which had nothing to do with the proposed development, apart from the fact that it was offered by the developer, would plainly not be a material consideration and could be regarded only as an attempt to buy planning permission.

If it had some connection with the proposed development which was not de minimis then regard must be had to it. But the extent, if any, to which it should affect the decision was a matter entirely within the discretion of the decision maker and in exercising that discretion he was entitled to have regard to his established policy.

When it came to the secretary of state's decision letter, it was clear that on its fair reading he had not disregarded Tesco's offer of funding as being immaterial.

On the contrary, he had given it careful consideration and had weighed it up for its significance for the purpose of arriving at a planning decision.

LORD HOFFMANN, agreeing, added that the law had always made a clear distinction between the question of whether something was a material consideration and the weight which it should be given. The former was a question of law and the latter was a question of planning judgment, which was entirely a matter for the planning authority.

Provided that the planning authority had regard to all material considerations, it was at liberty, provided that it did not lapse into *Wednesbury* irrationality [*Associated Provincial Picture Houses Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223)] to give them whatever weight it thought fit or no weight at all.

A fundamental principle of British planning law was that the courts were concerned only with the legality of the decision-making process and not with the merits of the decision.

If there was one principle of planning law more firmly settled than any other, it was that matters of planning judgment were within the exclusive province of the local planning authority or the secretary of state.

Lord Ackner, Lord Browne-Wilkinson and Lord Lloyd agreed.

Solicitors: Berwin Leighton; Treasury Solicitor; McKenna & Co.

Partial credit for input VAT

Thorn EMI v Customs and Excise Commissioners

Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Millett

[Judgment May 11]

In the case of an indivisible supply of goods or services used both for business entertainment and to a measurable extent for other business purposes, the taxpayer was entitled to a partial credit in respect of the input value-added tax based on an apportionment of the tax between the entertainment and the other business uses.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise from the decision of Mr Justice Turner on April 22, 1994 when he allowed an appeal by the taxpayers, Thorn EMI, on a point of law under section 13 of the Tribunal and Inquiries Act 1971 from the dismissal by a VAT tribunal of the taxpayers' appeal against an assessment to VAT.

Article 9 of the Value Added Tax (Special Provisions) Order (SI 1981 No 1741) provides: "(1) Input tax on the supply to a taxable person of goods or services used or to be used by him for the purpose of business entertainment shall be excluded from any credit. . ."

Mr Michael Kent and Mr James Holdsworth for the commissioners; Mr Kevin Prosser and Mr Andrew Hitchmough, instructed by Ernst & Young, accountants, for the taxpayers.

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT said that the appeal raised a point of construction of article 9(1) of the 1981 Order which had the effect of excluding from credit as input tax, VAT incurred on the supply of goods or services used or to be used for business entertainment.

The question was whether, in the case of an indivisible supply of goods or services used both for business entertainment and to a measurable extent, for other business purposes, the taxpayer was entitled to a partial credit in respect of the input tax based on an apportionment of the tax between the entertainment and the other business uses. Although the point was a short one, it had led to a difference of judicial opinion in the High Court.

In *Customs and Excise Commissioners v Plant Repair and Services (South Wales) Ltd* ([1994] STC 232), Mr Justice Laws had held that no apportionment was permissible. His decision was applied by the VAT tribunal in the present case but Mr Justice Turner had declined to follow it. Their Lordships now had to decide which construction of article 9(1) was correct.

Value-added tax was introduced in 1973 pursuant to the provisions of the Finance Act 1972. Section 3 of that Act dealt with the deduction of input tax but made no provision for the apportionment of input tax where there was an indivisible supply of goods or services partly for business and partly for non-business use.

However, in *National Water Council v Customs and Excise Commissioners* ([1979] STC 157) Mr Justice Neill had considered it legitimate to construe section 3 so as to imply a right to apportion the input tax where goods or services were supplied partly for business and partly for non-business purposes.

Section 3 of the 1972 Act was repealed and replaced by section 14 of the Value Added Tax Act 1983. Confirming that Mr Justice Neill had correctly interpreted Parliament's intention, section 14(4) introduced an express provision for apportionment in those circumstances.

The 1983 Act and article 9(1) of the 1981 Order appeared to have been introduced, inter alia, with a view to the harmonisation of the basis of assessment to VAT in the European Community in compliance with the provisions of the Sixth Council Directive (77/388/EC) (OJ 1977 L145) which came into force on January 1, 1978.

In *Customs and Excise Commissioners v Plant Repair and Services (South Wales) Ltd* Mr Justice Laws had held that, in the absence of express provision for apportionment between entertainment and non-entertainment business use, none could be implied.

Mr Justice Turner had refused to follow that decision in the present case and relied on the fact that, before its amendment in 1988, article 9(1) required an apportionment between the entertainment of overseas and the entertainment of domestic customers and that, once the principle of apportionment was imported into the article, it followed that there had to be apportionment between entertainment and other business use.

His Lordship did not find that argument persuasive. However, his Lordship had come to the conclusion that a provision for apportionment between entertainment and non-entertainment had to be implied into article 9 for the following reasons:

1 To make the exclusion of credit dependant upon whether the goods or services were used exclusively for business entertainment frustrated the statutory purpose.

2 It was impossible to believe that Parliament intended to treat the supply of goods or services used for business entertainment less favourably than the supply of goods or services used for non-business purposes.

3 A right of apportionment was implied in *National Water Council v Customs and Excise Commissioners* in circumstances which were much less compelling than those of the present case.

4 The exclusion of all credit for input tax in the present case would deny the taxpayers the basic right of deduction guaranteed by article 17.2 and 17.3 of the Sixth Directive and would go beyond anything permitted by the derogation contained in article 17.6.

In his Lordship's judgment, therefore, article 9(1) of the 981 Order should be construed as requiring an apportionment to be made between business entertainment and other business use and *Customs and Excise Commissioners v Plant Repair and Services (South Wales) Ltd* should be overruled.

Lord Justice Hobhouse delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Stuart-Smith agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

No reasons duty over suitability of housing

Regina v Kensington and Chelsea Royal London Borough Counsil, Ex parte Grillo

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Roch

[Judgment May 11]

Local authorities were not under any general legal duty to give reasons for their decision that in a particular case the accommodation offered to a homeless person was suitable.

The Court of Appeal so held when, inter alia, dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Moriam Grillo, from the decision of Sir Louis Blom Cooper, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, given on December 1, 1994 whereby he dismissed her application for judicial review.

The applicant had sought to challenge the decision of Kensington and Chelsea Royal London Borough Council, dated July 13 and 27, 1994, that the accommodation offered to her and her family was suitable for occupation by them and that the council had discharged its duty to the applicant under the Housing Act 1985.

The applicant was offered a two bedroomed flat on the seventh floor of a council block and informed, in writing, that it was council policy to make only one offer of accommodation, that refusal would be considered by the council as fulfilment of its duty to provide accommodation, and that she could appeal against the offer.

The applicant, who suffered from arthritis, refused the offer and appealed against it on the ground that it was not suitable because of her medical needs. The council rejected her appeal stating that in its view the accommodation offered was suitable.

Mr James Bowen for the applicant; Mr Anthony Dinkin, QC and Mr Simon Bird for the council.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that before the judge it was argued (i) that in the circumstances no council could have reasonably offered the flat to the applicant as being suitable for her; and (ii) that it had failed to give any or any adequate reasons for its decision that the flat was suitable.

The judge rejected the first argument. On the second he concluded that a local authority was under a duty to give reasons for rejecting an appeal where the issue was whether particular accommodation was suitable under Part III of the 1985 Act.

He held that although the failure of the council to give reasons amounted to a failure to comply with its statutory obligations and would in other circumstances have led to a quashing of the decisions, in the particular circumstances, it would not be sensible to quash the decision or to send it back to the council to give further reasons.

In the Court of Appeal similar arguments were advanced. Mr Sullivan, the council's head of housing needs, had to strike a balance between the applicant's needs and difficulties, serious though they were, and the needs and difficulties of other families on the list. It was for him to make an assessment between competing claims for housing.

That task had been entrusted to local housing authorities by Parliament and the court should be very slow to interfere in that process except in the clearest case. It was impossible to say that Mr Sullivan had acted unreasonably.

Was there a duty to give reasons? The judge concluded that there was a general duty to give reasons for decisions "in every aspect of the homeless persons legislation". The principle of fairness required the courts to impose such a duty and to supply what the judge described as the "legislative omission".

With diffidence his Lordship did not agree with the judge. There might come a time when English law did impose a general obligaton on administrative authorities to give reasons for their decisions. But there was no such requirement at present.

Such a duty might be implied in appropriate circumstances which would include the nature of the adjudicating process and the facts of the case.

In the present case, the procedure for appeals was a voluntary procedure instituted by the council itself. According to Mr Sullivan the relevant decisions were reached in line with the general policy of the council.

They involved a difficult balancing exercise. In areas where an acute shortage of council accommodation existed such decisions were likely to involve anxious choices between a number of households with competing claims to priority.

In his Lordship's judgment, it would be wrong to impose on local housing authorities any general legal duty to give reasons for their finding in a particular case that the accommodation offered was suitable.

The position might well be different where an individual decision was demonstrably out of line with the housing policy of the relevant authority; in such a case the decision might be aberrant and require explanation.

In other cases an authority might wish to give reasons as part of a sensible and sensitive policy towards those who were seeking their help in that very important field. But his Lordship considered that the courts should be careful not to impose legal duties on housing authorities when Parliament had chosen not to do so unless the exceptional facts of a particular case justified the interference of the court.

One might applaud the giving of reasons for an administrative decision as a sign of good and courteous administration but his Lordship was unable to accept the judge's dictum that there was "a general duty to give reasons for decisons in every aspect of the homeless persons legislation".

His Lordship did not consider that there was any such general legal duty or a duty to give reasons for the rejection of the appeal by the council.

Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Roch agreed.

Solicitors: Oliver Fisher & Co; Mr A. G. Phillips, Kensington.

Call to amend definition of 'violent offence'

Regina v Ragg

Before Lord Justice Pill, Mr Justice Buckley and Mr Justice Laws

[Judgment May 5]

The offence of threatening to kill might constitute a violent offence within the terms of section 31(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 and thus attract an extended sentence pursuant to section 2(2)(b) of the Act either where the prosecution could prove that the defendant intended death or injury to result from the threat itself, or where on the facts such a consequence flowed or was likely to flow from the threat itself.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing the appeal of Kenneth Philip Ragg against concurrent sentences of five years imprisonment passed on him on December 2, 1994 in Hereford Crown Court (Judge Geddes) following his conviction on October 7, 1994 of two counts of threatening to kill. Sentences of four years on each count concurrent were substituted.

Mr Robert Cowley, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

MR JUSTICE LAWS, delivering the reserved judgment of the court, said that "violent offence" was defined in section 31(1) of the 1991 Act as "an offence which leads, or is intended or likely to lead, to a person's death or to physical injury to a person".

The offence of threatening to kill was not per se within that definition. In the ordinary way the threat of itself would not lead, or be likely to lead, to death or physical injury. There might, however, be cases in which a threat to kill would constitute an offence of violence within section 31(1), although they were likely to be rare.

Such cases fell into two classes: first, where the threat was intended to lead to death or injury, for example in a case where to the defendant's knowledge the victim's health was delicate and be intended by making the threat that the victim should be so frightened as to suffer physical harm.

That class of case shaded into the second, which arose when the circumstances of the offence were such that the threat made it likely that death or injury would happen, and which would include, for example, a state of affairs in which a threat was made when the victim was standing on a balcony or precipice and was likely as a result to recoil and fall. Those were, however, special cases.

Before parting with the case, their Lordships thought it right to refer to certain observations made in *R v Richart* (*The Times* April 14) as to the desirability of amending the definition of "violent offence" to include an offence which led to a reasonable apprehension of violence in the victim. With those words their Lordships agreed.

Form not deficient

Baldwin v DPP

A police proforma was not deficient where in informing a driver of his right to object to the giving of a blood sample under section 8(2) of the Road Traffic Act 1988, it had neglected to specify that that objection should be on medical grounds.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Curtis) so held on May 5 when dismissing an appeal by case stated by John Baldwin against his conviction on November 21, 1994 by Huddersfield Justices of driving with excess alcohol contrary to section 5.

MR JUSTICE CURTIS said that the words of Lord Bridge of Harwich in *DPP v Warren* ([1993] AC 319, 332F) were not a statute but rather words to guide the lower courts in the interpretation of the statute. So long as the option given in section 8(2) was given fairly and properly so that the driver could make an informed choice, the requirements of justice were ensured.

Representation irrelevant

Regina v Nottingham Justices, Ex parte Fraser

In deciding whether to issue a warrant for the arrest of a defence witness under section 97(3) of the Magistrates' Court Act 1980 justices should not take into account the adequacy of the defendant's representation.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Staughton and Mr Justice Mitchell) so held on May 10 when allowing an application by Scott Cordner Fraser for judicial review to quash his conviction by Nottingham Justices on July 8, 1993 for criminal damage contrary to section 1 of the Criminal Damage Act 1971.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON said that in refusing to issue a warrant for the arrest of a defence witness the justices had taken into account the fact that the applicant had a solicitor representing him who could adequately put his case to the court.

That was an irrelevant consideration. Justices should, in some cases, hear evidence on oath when considering issuing an arrest warrant so that they could consider whether the witnes's evidence was critical or whether it had been put together for some other purpose.

Human Rights Law Report — Strasbourg

Seizure of aircraft carrying drugs was justified

Air Canada v United Kingdom

(Case No 9/1994/456/537)

Before R. Ryssdal, President and Judges F. Golcuklu, F. Matscher, B. Walsh, C. Russo, A. Spielmann, S. K. Martens, R. Pekkanen and Sir John Freeland

Registrar H. Petzold

[Judgment May 5]

The seizure of Air Canada's aircraft by the Customs and Excise and its release subject to payment did not amount to an unjustified interference with the peaceful enjoyment of possessions as guaranteed in article 1 of the First Protocol of the European Convention on Human Rights (Cmnd 8969).

The European Court of Human Rights also held, by five votes to four, that the matters complained of did not involve the determination of a criminal charge and that the company's civil rights and obligations, as guaranteed by article 6 of the Convention, had not been violated.

Article 1 of Protocol No 1 provides: "Every natural or legal person is entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of his possessions. No one shall be deprived of his possessions except in the public interest and subject to the conditions provided for by law and by the general principles of international law.

"The preceding provisions shall not, however, in any way impair the right of a state to enforce such laws as it deems necessary to control the use of property in accordance with the general interest or to secure the payment of taxes or other contributions or penalties."

Article 6, paragraph 1, of the Convention provides, inter alia: "In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair . . . hearing . . . by an independent and impartial tribunal. . ."

An aeroplane owned and operated by Air Canada landed at London Heathrow Airport on April 26, 1987. One of its containers was found to hold 331kg of cannabis resin. That was the latest in a series of alleged breaches of security involving Air Canada.

On May 1, 1987 officers of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise seized the aircraft under section 139(1) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 as liable to forfeiture under section 141(1) of the Act.

That stipulates: "... where any thing has become liable to forfeiture under Customs and Excise Acts —

"(a) any ship, vehicle, animal, container (including any article of passengers' baggage) or other thing whatsoever which has been used for the carriage, handling, deposit or concealment of the thing so liable to forfeiture, either at a time when it was so liable or for the purpose of the commission of the offence for which it later became so liable . . . shall also be liable to forfeiture."

Schedule 3 to the Act provides: "Where notice of claim in respect of any thing is duly given in accordance with [paragraphs 3 and 4] the commissioners shall take proceedings for the condemnation of that thing by the court, and if the court finds that the thing was at the time of seizure liable to forfeiture the court shall condemn it as forfeited."

Later on the same day the commissioners returned the aircraft on payment of £50,000.

On May 20, 1987 Air Canada challenged the commissioners' assertion that the aircraft was liable to forfeiture. The commissioners accordingly initiated proceedings for condemnation of the aircraft under paragraph 6 of Schedule 3 to the Act).

The High Court did not accept that Parliament had intended the commissioners to have the power to forfeit in a case where, unknown to the operator, a third person had smuggled prohibited goods aboard an aircraft (*The Times* November 9 1988; [1989] QB 234).

An appeal by the commissioners against that judgment was upheld by the Court of Appeal (*The Times* June 15, 1990; [1991] 2 QB 446). Air Canada was subsequently refused leave to appeal to the Lords.

The application was lodged with the European Commission of Human Rights on May 2, 1991; it was declared admissible on April 1, 1993.

Having attempted unsuccessfully to secure a friendly settlement, the Commission drew up a report on November 30, 1993 in which it established the facts and expressed the opinion that there had been no violation of article 1 of Protocol No 1 (nine votes to five) and that there had been no violation of article 6, paragraph 1, (eight votes to six).

The Commission referred the case to the Court on March 11, 1994.

In its judgment, the European Court of Human Rights held as follows:

I Article 1 of Protocol No 1

A The applicable rule

The seizure of the aircraft did not involve a transfer of ownership and the decision of the Court of Appeal to condemn the property as forfeited did not have the effect of depriving Air Canada of ownership since the sum required for the release of the aircraft had been paid.

The release of the aircraft subject to payment was a measure taken in furtherlance of a policy seeking to prevent carriers from bringing prohibited drugs into the United Kingdom. As such, it amounted to a control of the use of property. It was therefore the second paragraph of article 1 which was applicable in the present case.

B Compliance with the second paragraph

The seizure of the applicant's aircraft and its release subject to payment were exceptional measures which were resorted to in order to bring about an improvement in the company's security procedures.

Those measures were taken following the discovery of a container, the shipment of which involved various transport irregularities, holding 331kg of cannabis resin.

Moreover, the incident ws the latest in a long series of alleged security lapses which had been brought to Air Canada's attention involving the illegal importation of drugs into the United Kingdom during the period 1983 to 1987.

The measures taken, therefore, conformed to the general interest in combating international drug trafficking.

In addition, it would have been open to Air Canada to have instituted judicial review proceedings to challenge the failure of the commissioners to provide reasons for the seizure of the aircraft.

In *AGOSI v United Kingdom* (*The Times* October 25, 1986; Series A No 108, paragraphs 59-60) the Court had held that the scope of judicial review was sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the second paragraph. It considered that there was no reason to reach a different conclusion on that point in the present case.

Taking into account the large quantity of drugs found in the container, its street value, as well as the value of the aircraft, the requirement to pay £50,000 was not disproportionate to the aim of preventing the importation of prohibited drugs into the United Kingdom.

Bearing in mind the above, as well as the state's margin of appreciation in that area, the Court considered that, in the circumstances of the present case, a fair balance had been achieved between the demands of the general interest of the community and the requirement of the protection of the individuals' fundamental rights.

Judges Walsh, Martens, Russo and Pekkhanen dissented.

II Article 6 paragraph 1 of the Convention

A Applicability

1 Criminal charge

No criminal charge had been brought and the criminal courts had not been involved in the matter. Moreover the Court of Appeal had specifically rejected the argument made by counsel for Air Canada that section 141 of the 1979 Act was tantamount to a criminal provision.

In that connection, the Court of Appeal had pointed out that the description of the relevant provisions as being "civil" did not preclude it from finding that a provision was, in effect, "criminal" in nature.

However, the matter was resolved with reference to earlier cases which decided that section 141 provided a process in rem against, inter alia, any vehicle used in smuggling.

Accordingly, the matter complained of did not involve the determination of a criminal charge.

2 Civil rights and obligations

It had not been disputed by those appearing before the Court that the present case concerned a dispute relating to the applicant company's civil rights.

B Compliance with article 6 paragraph 1

The applicant's complaint related to both the seizure of the aircraft and the payment of £50,000.

As to the seizure, the relevant provisions of United Kingdom law required the commissioners to take proceedings for forfeiture once the seizure of the aircraft had been challenged.

Such proceedings were in fact brought and, with the agreement of the parties, were limited to the determination of specified questions of law. In such circumstances, the requirement of access to court was satisfied.

Furthermore, it was also open to Air Canada to bring judicial review proceedings contesting the decision of the commissioners to require payment as a condition for the return of the aircraft. However, for whatever reason, such proceedings were not in fact instituted.

Against that background, the Court did not consider it appropriate to examine in the abstract whether the scope of judicial review would be capable of satisfying article 6, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

In conclusion, the Court held, Judges Walsh, Martens, Russo and Pekkanen dissenting, that there had been no violation of article 6, paragraph 1.

THE TIMES

Fly to Cannes to see Ed Wood at the film festival

Plus 2,800 FREE tickets throughout Britain





Readers of *The Times* have an exciting opportunity to visit the Cannes Film Festival to see the official competition screening of the hilarious film Ed Wood. The winner and their partner will be among the audience at this black-tie event, attended by the film's stars Johnny Depp, Oscar-winning Martin Landau, Patricia Arquette, Sarah Jessica Parker and director Tim Burton. The prize includes return flights to Nice, three nights' accommodation and £500 spending money.

Ed Wood is set against the exciting background of 1950s America, with its adored silver-screen legends such as Orson Wells, Marlon Brando and Marilyn Monroe. Among this illustrious company the altogether less-successful B-grade movie director, Edward D Wood Jr, is regarded as having directed some of the worst movies ever made. Hollywood's off-beat 'tribute' to his skills shows exactly how he did it.

To enter our competition simply answer the question below and phone 0891 856 963 before midnight on Monday May 15. The winner will be the first correct answer selected at random from all entries received after the closing date.

Question: Who is Johnny Depp's supermodel girlfriend?

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Lewis to survive on day of reckoning

Srikumar Sen anticipates a make-or-break contest for Britain's former world champion

It is perhaps to be expected that boxing, so long used by promoters and world bodies to promote their own ends at the expense of boxers, should have developed into a looking-glass world.

So it is not surprising to find that the worst result of Lennox Lewis's career was his second-round victory over Donovan Ruddock, and his best, his second-round defeat at the hands of Oliver McCall.

The win made Lewis "right-hand happy" and led to his downfall. The knockout by McCall at Wembley Arena last September brought the British-born boxer to his senses. He put himself in the hands of a new trainer, Emanuel Steward, who has worked with 24 world champions.

Steward has had Lewis in his care for ten weeks, during which time he has trained at Kronk Gym, in Detroit, and at altitude at Big Bear Lake, California. In that time, Steward says he has managed to bring back the boxing excellence of Lewis's amateur days and harness it to the punching power that he has developed in 5½ years as a professional.

Steward believes that the former world champion now has all the boxing skills needed to ward off and counter the all-out, two-handed, Tyson-type attack that Lionel Butler, his opponent here tonight, will launch at the Arco Arena.

The first big punch that Butler lands will almost certainly start the alarm bells ringing in Lewis's head. Steward has warned him to expect mayhem for at least the first three rounds. If Lewis can get past those rounds, he can gradually subdue Butler.

Even Lewis's close friend and advisor, John Hornewer, says that Butler is the most dangerous opponent for any heavyweight contender to take on. Frank Maloney, Lewis's manager, said: "Butler throws everything at you."

The American, who has had no amateur experience, faced Riddick Bowe in only the second bout of his career. Butler was stopped in two rounds but not before he had had Bowe in serious trouble.

Lewis's chances depend on how seriously Butler has trained. He is believed to have been having drug problems and living an unsettled life. Although a family man with a wife and an 18-month-old daughter, in the past three months Butler has lived in eight cities in five different states and is believed to have neglected his training.

"He's been in more cities than gyms," Teddie Atlas, who is here with Michael Moorer, said. "He hasn't trained. He'll be dangerous for a few rounds and, if Lennox can survive those rounds, he should be able to take care of Butler."

Certainly Butler's weight of 18st 10lb gives the impression that he has not taken training too seriously. Of course the weight could be misleading because, when he weighed in on Thursday, he was wearing a bulky tracksuit and heavy boots. Only a few hours before, when he was walking around in a T-shirt, he looked in good shape with good muscle definition.

Lewis weighed 17st 10lb, which is ten pounds more than his heaviest weight. Certainly, at 6ft 5in, he is big enough to carry the extra 10lb but one cannot help feeling that 17 stones would have been a preferable weight from which to effect any strategy he might have for dealing with Butler. It would certainly have given him more mobility about the ring.

But Steward is confident that Lewis's height and reach advantage will keep him out of trouble in the difficult rounds: "As Lewis is a slow starter Butler is going to attack quickly, so we'll have to see that Lennox is well warmed-up coming into the ring. Butler is going to come out charged-up and fired-up and there's going to be a lot of emotion in there.

"Lennox has been working on using his reach," Steward said. "Butler is not going to be able to fight while Lennox doesn't want to fight. I don't think the fight will go the distance. Lennox will stop it."

I expect Lewis to stop Butler around seven or eight rounds, but he may have to survive some extremely torrid moments, perhaps even get up off the floor. The bout will either be the making of Lewis as a great boxer or send him out of contention indefinitely.

If Lewis comes through this final eliminator for the world title he could once again meet Frank Bruno, who has a good chance of lifting McCall's title when they meet on July 22 at Wembley.

Tonight, Bruno is supposed to be having a warm up against Mike Evans, of the United States, at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. But it is most unlikely that Bruno will even break sweat against this American.

Evans might last a little longer than Bruno's past two opponents, Jessie Ferguson and Rodolfo Marin — one round apiece — but only because he tries to survive by covering up on the ropes and doing virtually nothing.

Agassi crosses swords with spectator after rapid defeat

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN HAMBURG

THE patience of Andre Agassi, the top seed in the German Open, snapped spectacularly here yesterday. Too impetuous to keep rallying with the obdurate Sergi Bruguera, he lost the one-sided quarter-final and his temper both with the elements and with one of many disenchanted spectators in the Rothenbaum.

Having submitted within 66 minutes and committed an uncharacteristically large total of 35 unforced errors, he was accused of providing less than full value for money and worse. "What a waste of money. You cheated us," an onlooker cried as Agassi walked over to collect his equipment.

"What are you going to do? Put a knife in my back," Agassi snapped. The distasteful retort refreshed dark memories of the incident for which the stadium will be forever infamous. On the very same court two years ago, Monica Seles was wounded and has yet to resume her career.

Agassi engaged in further disagreeable banter before leaving. "Some guy in the crowd didn't like me," he later explained. "You get that sort of thing from time to time. At least he had the decency to wait until after the match before voicing his opinion."

The umpire, Paolo Ferreira, had by then vacated his seat and the area. Agassi's outburst was overheard, though, by a security guard and reported to the supervisor of the tournament, Tom Barnes, but Alan Mills, the referee, confirmed that no disciplinary action is to be taken.

Agassi did receive an official warning for a visible obscenity in the sixteenth and final game. Having missed another relatively simple overhead, he raised a finger towards a largely overcast sky. "I was pointing towards the sun," he said. His defence was not convincing. Nor was his performance.

With tickets costing as much as Dm130 (about £62), the observers were entitled to have anticipated a tighter match. Agassi had won three titles this year, had not failed to reach the last four of any of his seven tournaments and had overtaken Pete Sampras as the world's No 1.

Bruguera, though the French Open champion for the past two years and regarded as the leading clay-court exponent, damaged his left knee in February and was out of action for six weeks. This is only his third event of his disrupted year but he won with appreciable ease, 6-3, 6-1.

Agassi argued, justifiably, that he was too anxious and "had tried too much to force it". He agreed, too, that his first serve, which was more often out than in, was "pitiful". Yet, particularly for a player of his renewed stature, his whole approach was surprisingly ill-disciplined and thoughtless.

He is prone to the odd heavy defeat. Sampras, in Osaka last year, and Bruguera, in Barcelona the year before, dismissed him by precisely the same score, for example, and Agassi expressed no concern before travelling back to his American homeland to begin training for the French Open, which starts in a fortnight.

"I'm not going to get worked up about it and I am looking forward to playing him (Bruguera) in Paris." Thus spake a man who appeared more eager to return to Las Vegas than prolong his visit to Europe. Nor was he the only quarter-finalist to yield unexpectedly swiftly for, in a series of mis-matches, the four losers collected only 17 games between them.



Agassi: missing Rome

After his defeat, Marc Rosset took his frustration out on his racket, thrashing it repeatedly into the red sand until it was a ruin. He went down to Goran Ivanisevic, the fourth seed who now meets Bruguera, 6-1, 6-3.

Andrei Medvedev, the twelfth seed and the holder, won a youthful contest against Andrea Gaudenzi, the former world junior champion, 6-3, 6-2. He faces Sampras, the second seed, who confirmed his status as the new favourite by overwhelming Wayne Ferreira, who had knocked out Petr Korda and Michael Stich, 6-2, 6-2.

Unlike Agassi, his Davis Cup colleague, Sampras has chosen to complete his preparations for Roland Garros by staying in Europe and next week plays in the Italian Open.

Husband and wife closing on target

BY DAVID POWELL

RICHARD and Sandra Brown, married to each other, and to a love of long distance running and walking, are ahead of the clock in their simultaneous attempt to set records for foot racing between Land's End and John o'Groats. By lunchtime yesterday, 7½ days into their challenge, Richard Brown had covered 594 of the 825 miles, some five hours inside record schedule, and Sandra Brown was on course to break the women's mark by two days.

Since leaving Land's End, they have had to cope with extremes of weather — temperatures in the high seventies in Cornwall and near freezing in Perth yesterday.

Richard Brown, the chief executive of an agency for investment and jobs in Avon, is seeking to beat the record of ten days 15 hours 27 minutes set by Don Ritchie in 1989. He is running and walking from 4.15am to 11.30pm except for two daily 40-minute breaks. Sandra Brown, who works in the Treasury and has been sponsored by Kenneth Clarke is progressing on only one to two hours sleep and one break a day.

The women's record of 13 days 17 hours 42 minutes, set by Ann Sayer, has stood since 1980. At the present rate of progress Richard Brown will arrive in John o'Groats on Monday, followed by his wife the next day.

Mac sparkles as Diamond cuts rivals to the quick

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

EMMA-JANE MAC gained her second women's national show-jumping title when she and her spirited chesnut mare, Diamond, won the British ladies' championship at the Royal Windsor Horse Show yesterday.

Her victory, achieved by relegating Di Lampard and Abbervail Dream, the holders of the Queen Elizabeth II Cup, into second place, ends a lean 12 months for Mac. Her leading horse, Oyster, on which she was reserve for the

RESULTS

British Ladies Jumping Championship: 1, Diamond (E-J Mac) 0 faults in 38.35sec; 2, Abbervail Dream (D Lampard) 0 in 39.80; 3, Sight and Sound Sheme (K A Riches) 0 in 50.77. Land Rover Accumulator: 1, Toggi Santa's Echo (T Stockdale) 37.67; 2, My Harlem (G Williams) 38.55; 3, Hallo Oscar (G Glazzard) 39.23.

Hermes Grand Prix Dressage: 1, Ann Tor (F Elberg) 968; 2, Giorgione (W Bechtolsheimer) 962; 3, Cabaraston Dazzler (J Lorlston-Clarke) 961. Horse teams (after dressage): 1, G Bowman (GB) 31.0; 2, H de Ruyter (Hol) 41.3; 3, M Freund (Ger) 43.7.

TNT Ridden Mountain and Moorland Champion: Mrs A Henriques's Kentchurch Cloud; Reserve: Mrs B Smith's Emford Bellboy. In Hand Champion: Mrs J Webb's Stelon; Reserve: Mrs A Doughty's Wilby Vicipy.

1990 world championships, died from colic 14 months ago at the age of 11. "I had no other top horse so I virtually had to start again," Mac said.

The Dutch-bred Diamond was bought as a four-year-old five years ago but was difficult as a novice and took time to mature. "He was excitable and would spook at anything unusual such as water or ditches," Mac said.

The win yesterday — eight years after Mac's first national title on Guilty — was Diamond's first important success. Eight horses reached the jump-off in which Mac, 31, was drawn second. Once safely over the verticals in the first half of the course, she "put her foot down" and finished in the fast time of 38.35 seconds. "I just wish the children had been here to watch," she said.

Lampard, who was giving Abbervail Dream, an eight-year-old, his first significant test against the clock, finished just over a second behind Mac. The magnificent Irish-bred gelding, whose owner, Robert Verburgt, has turned down numerous offers for him, is likely to make his Nations Cup debut at Hickstead next month.

Alison Bradley, Nick Skelton's stable jockey, came close to dislodging Mac when she and Endeavour produced the fastest time of the jump-off but clipped the last fence. Marie Edgar, the favourite, who has won the title three times, dropped out of contention when Everest Winstar hit three fences.

Edgar is likely to be compensated today. She is one of four riders to qualify for the Land Rover British Horsemaster, the richest event of the week. Edgar, who was runner-up to Peter Charles last year, competes with Tim Stockdale, James Fisher and Geoff Glazzard.

On form, Stockdale, 30, is the favourite for the competition in which, following the formula for the world championships, each rider competes on each horse. He won his third successive competition yesterday in the Land Rover Accumulator.

JULIAN HERBERT



Mac guides Diamond over a fence on her way to the British ladies' championship

Split decision puts Fairbrother in the medals

BY JOHN GOODBODY

NICOLA FAIRBROTHER, the world lightweight champion, fought with composed skill to reach the semi-finals of the Daewoo European judo championships in Birmingham yesterday. With bantamweight Nigel Donohue also reaching the semi-finals, Britain now have seven competitors through to dispute the medals this weekend.

Since a further four home fighters could still get bronze medals from the last stages of the repechage, Britain can confidentally expect a glut of success as the 42-nation tournament reaches its climax. The momentum has certainly built up, with few of the home competitors falling below their expected standard of performance.

Fairbrother had a bye in the first round and then quickly held down Michelle Krey, of Denmark. It was, she said, not much of a warm-up. "I did not really get the taste of blood."

The Olympic silver medal-winner then met Karine Petit, of France, who set out to obstruct the Briton by throwing her arm high onto Fairbrother's lapel. Fairbrother said: "She did not do anything much herself but she tried to make me look bad."

Fairbrother knocked down Petit, but with 50 seconds left in the four-minute bout was knocked down herself. She could not penetrate the French girl's defence in the last seconds and the three officials had to decide which fighter had been the more aggressive and come closer to scoring.

The result was a split decision in the Briton's favour. Fairbrother said: "I've had a few go against me this year." This time she was more fortunate. She now meets Tanja Munzinger, of Germany, whom she beat in Munich earlier this year, for a place in the final.

Donohue, a former wrestler, took a silver medal in this event four years ago. Yesterday, he overwhelmed Pedro Caravanna, of Portugal, ending the contest with a crisp ankle sweep. Then he wheeled Orlin Bussev, of Bulgaria, to the ground with a throw that looks like a fireman's lift before ending the contest with a throw picked up from a book by Katsuhiko Kashiwazaki, Japan's former world champion.

Danny Kingston, a lightweight, and Sharon Rendle, a featherweight, lost contests yesterday, but worked their way back through the repechage.

Results, page 38

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

Today

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

FA Carling Premiership
Wimbledon v Nottingham Forest .....

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
Dundee Utd v Celtic .....
Falkirk v Aberdeen .....
Hearts v Motherwell .....
Kilmarnock v Hibernian .....
Rangers v Partick .....

First division
Dunfermline v Clydebank .....
Hamilton v Raith .....
St Johnstone v Airdrie .....
St Mirren v Ayr .....
Stranraer v Dundee .....

Second division
Berwick v Brechin .....
Greenock Morton v Meadowbank .....
Queen Of South v Clyde .....
Stenhousemuir v East Fife .....
Stirling v Dumbarton .....

Third division
Caley This v Queen's Park .....
Cowdenbeath v Arbroath .....
Forfar v Alloa .....
Montrose v Albion .....
Ross County v East Stirling .....

FA VASE: Final: Arlesey Town v Oxford City (at Wembley).
KONICA LEAGUE CUP: Final: Ton Pentre v Llansantffraid (at Newtown FC).
PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cranleigh v Pepperl. Westfield v Horley: Netherne v Eton Wick.
HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Banbury v Swindon Supermarine; North Leigh v Cinderford; Pegasus Juniors v Fairford; Tuffley v Abingdon.
SEDOL MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Arnolls v Northfield; Blowich v Sherwood Celtic; Coleshill v Alvechurch Villa; Handrahan Timbers v West Midland Fire Service; Knowle v Kings Heath; Mar KA v Upton; Olton Royale v Studley BKL; Shirley v Chelmsley

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Swindon v Bristol City (2.0).
OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Ignatians v Old Hamptonians; Clapham v Old Meadonians; Chertsey v Cardinal Manning. Senior first division: Old Edmontonians v Old Tenisonians; Old Isleworthians v Old Kingsburians; Old Suttonians v Old Salvatorians. Senior second division: Old Westminsters v Old Meadonians. Senior third division: Leyton v Old Salvatorians; Latymer v Old Greenfordians; Phoenix v Old Grocers
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Tottenham v Leyton Orient. Second division: Bristol City v Wimbledon.
CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Nantwich v Boodle; Penrith v Eastwood H; Trafford v Bradford Park Avenue.
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier Division: Stafford FC v Walsall Wood FC; Bilston v Westfields.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Crowborough v Arundel; Langney Sports v Oakwood; Pagham v Newhaven; Shoreham v Stamco; Wick v Peacehaven and Telscombe.
ENGLISH SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Trophy: Under-19 final: West Yorkshire v Hampshire.

CRICKET
Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, third day of four
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Yorkshire.
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Sussex.
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Nottinghamshire
CANTERBURY: Kent v Leicestershire.
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Warwickshire.
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Somerset.
THE OVAL: Surrey v Durham.
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Middlesex.

Other matches
11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0, final day of three
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Essex.

THE PARKS: Oxford University v Hampshire.

RUGBY UNION
TWICKENHAM: Middlesex seven-a-side tournament, final rounds (11.20).

HOCKEY
INTER-LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS: High Wycombe v Olton and West Warwickshire (at Wycombe Sports Centre, 2.30); Whitchurch v City of Portsmouth (at Llys Talybont, Cardiff, 2.0).
SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Edinburgh University v Menzieshill, Grange v MIM; Inverleith v Watsonians; Torbrex W v Gordonians; Western v Kelburne.
HOCKEYTHON: Guilder v Woking (at Guildford, 2.0).
AEHA CENTENARY WEEKEND: England v Germany (1.30); England Past v Ireland Past (3.30) (at Sheffield).
WOMEN'S FOUR NATIONS' TOURNAMENT: Ireland v Scotland (12.0); Wales v Belgium (2.30) (at WIS, Cardiff).
JUNIOR DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT: East v Midlands (10.30); South v North (12.15); West v East (2.0); Midlands v North (3.45); West v South (6.30) (at Wakefield HC).

OTHER SPORT
GOLF: Benson and Hedges International Open (St Mellion).
CYCLING: Cambridge University 25 miles (Stow-cum-Quy, 3.0); Bramley Wheelers 25 miles (Boroughbridge, 4.0).
LACROSSE: Shepherds Friendly Society premiership: Semi-finals: Poynton v Mellor; Stockport v Cheadle.
JUDO: European championships (National Indoor Arena, Birmingham).
RUGBY LEAGUE: National Conference League: Premier division (2.30). Dudley Hill v Saddleworth; Egremont v West Hull; Mayfield v Askam; Woolston v Howorth.
SPEEDWAY: World under-21 championship: Final first qualifying (Arena Essex, 7.0). Premier League: Bradford v Hull; Coventry v Oxford; Cradley Heath v King's Lynn; Eastbourne v Wolverhampton; Swindon v Middlesbrough. British Academy grand prix: First round (Berwick, 7.0).

Tomorrow

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 4.0 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

FA Carling Premiership
Chelsea v Arsenal .....
Coventry v Everton .....
Liverpool v Blackburn .....
Manchester C v QPR .....
Newcastle v Crystal Palace .....
* Norwich v Aston Villa .....
Sheffield Wednesday v Ipswich .....
* Southampton v Leicester (12.0) .....
Tottenham v Leeds .....
West Ham v Manchester Utd .....

Endsleigh League play-offs
Semi-finals, first legs
First division
* Tranmere v Reading (2.56) .....
* Wolverhampton v Bolton (2.55) .....

Second division
* Bristol Rovers v Crewe .....
* Huddersfield v Brentford .....

Third division
* Mansfield v Chesterfield (12.0) .....
* Preston v Bury .....

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Tottenham v West Ham (at St Albans, 11.0).
FA UMBRO TROPHY: Final: Kidderminster v Woking (at Wembley, 1.0).

HOCKEY
Junior divisional tournament
At Wakefield
North v East (9.30) .....
Midlands v West (11.15) .....
East v South (1.0) .....
North v West (2.45) .....
South v Midlands 4.30 .....

Women's four nations tournament
At WIS, Cardiff
Belgium v Ireland (10.0) .....
Wales v Scotland (12.0) .....

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Gordonians v Inverleith; Kelburne v Grange; Menzieshill v Torbrex W; MIM v Edinburgh University; Watsonians v Western.

CRICKET
Tour match (one day)
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v West Indians (10.45).
AXA Equity & Law League
2.0 unless stated, 40 overs
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Yorkshire.
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Sussex (1.0).
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Nottinghamshire.
CANTERBURY: Kent v Leicestershire.
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Warwickshire.
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Somerset.
THE OVAL: Surrey v Durham.
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Middlesex.

University match
11.0, 55 overs
FENNER'S: Cambridge v Oxford.

RUGBY LEAGUE
Stones Bitter premiership
Semi-final
Leeds v St Helens (3.0) .....
Second division premiership
Semi-finals
Batley v Huddersfield (3.15) .....
Keighley v London Broncos (3.15) .....

BNFL NATIONAL AGE-GROUP PLAY-OFFS: Under-18: Semi-finals (11.45): East Leeds v Woolston (at Warrington); Blackbrook (St Helens) v Leigh East. Under-16: Semi-final: Egremont (Whitehaven) v Orrell St James (Wigan) (1.30).

OTHER SPORT
GOLF: Benson and Hedges International Open (St Mellion).
CYCLING: Lincoln grand prix (premier calendar, 102 miles, 11.30); RAF Inter-Services 30-mile championship (Stowmarket, 8.30am).
JUDO: European championships (National Indoor Arena, Birmingham).

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Fairbrother at pains to show benefit of patience

BY IVO TENNANT

OLD TRAFFORD (second day of four): Lancashire, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 90 runs ahead of Warwickshire

IT IS axiomatic that to bat for 5½ hours and score a century is an achievement in itself. To perform the feat with a runner — indeed, with three different runners — when in obvious pain, requires a gargantuan effort. Neil Fairbrother made 129 against the county champions here yesterday, the 32nd century of his career. He will not recall any of them more vividly than this.

Now in his benefit year, Fairbrother will be remembered at the start of the next millennium for his abilities and improvisation in the one-day game — and as a batsman who never quite succeeded in Test cricket. This is not a reputation he will necessarily relish.

But here yesterday, Fairbrother batted in an altogether different vein. His was the innings of the seasoned senior professional. The other two England batsmen in the Lancashire side, Atherton and Crawley, had gone cheaply the previous evening and, had he followed them, so quite probably would the remainder of the batting. That was the responsibility he bore.

Fairbrother had made only 26 when he pulled a muscle and called for a runner. The first to come to his aid was the England captain, which says something about their friendship. Atherton is spending a great deal of his spare time, and that cannot amount to much, attending and speaking at Fairbrother's benefit functions. It is hard to imagine Archie MacLaren acting as a runner when leading Lancashire, but that was in a more despotic age.

Atherton had a great deal of running to do, for Fairbrother was middling the ball without apparent hindrance. It is tempting to say that he batted all the better for being restrained.

There was, of course, no Donald to force him into contortions at the crease, and there will not be for another four weeks. The South African had a toe broken by Adam Hollioake in last week's championship match against Surrey, which means that Warwickshire will be looking to Munton to return as soon as physically possible.

Yesterday, the spinners, Neil Smith and Davis, were given much to do. This is a strange pitch, one that took spin before lunch on the first day and is now becoming slower: the groundsman was seemingly mindful of Donald's waspishness when he prepared it. The slow bowling was tidy enough, but it lacked the bite and even the metronomic accuracy of Keedy the previous day.

Fairbrother's resolve was accentuated by the loss of Gallian, leg-before padding up, and Speak, bowled off his pads by Davis. He square drove and pulled to great effect in spite of being in increasing pain and needing treatment from the Lancashire physiotherapist. Yet not until he had made 125 did he give what might be termed a realistic chance, swinging Davis to deep mid wicket where the catch was spilled.

His captain was partnering him now. Last season, Watkinson became increasingly concerned about the inconsistency of Lancashire's batting. It is understandable, for of this side only Keedy has not scored a first-class century — and he was playing for Yorkshire last year.

Watkinson still feels he has a chance of being chosen for England and, with Wasim Akram coming in immediately after him, runs should always be forthcoming from the lower middle order. That they were made here owed everything to Watkinson, who was out nine short of a century he much deserved.

He faced 173 balls, hitting ten fours, most of them driven with conviction. Fairbrother finally lost his middle stump through a weary pull at Brown, having struck 18 fours. It was a terrific performance, one that could, and should, bring victory for Lancashire.

The pitch, as much as the weather, is the key. Should Keedy and Watkinson bowl as they did on Thursday, Lancashire will gain their second championship victory in succession. Warwickshire, who are lacking numerous important players, will need to perform on a higher level. This might not be beyond them: they are, after all, county champions.

SCOREBOARD

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 262 (A J Moles 51; P J Marm 4 for 68).

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

M A Atherton lbw b Brown	4
J E R Gallian lbw b Davis	44
J P Crawley c Davis b Small	5
N H Fairbrother b Brown	129
N J Speak b Davis	15
*M Watkinson c Brown b Davis	91
Wasim Akram c Penney b Small	10
†W K Hegg not out	35
P J Martin not out	8
Extras (b 4, lb 7)	11
Total (7 wkts, 124 overs)	352

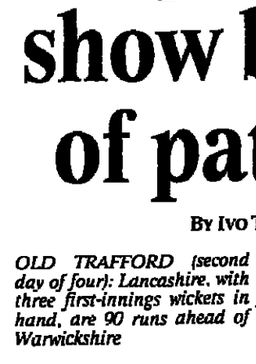
Score at 120 overs: 341-7.

G Chapple and G Keedy to bat.

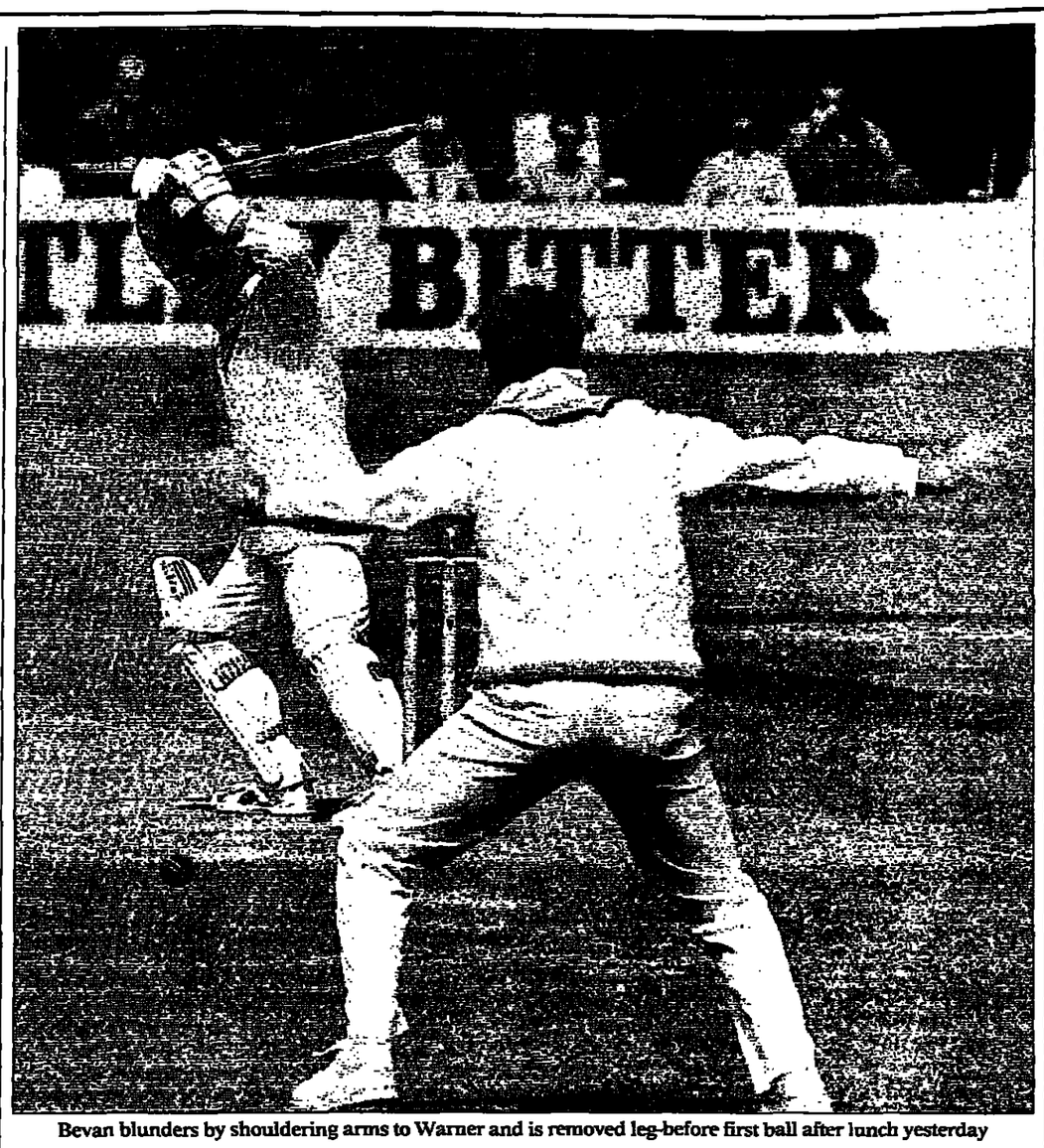
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-10, 3-101, 4-147, 5-283, 6-300, 7-334

BOWLING: Small 20-4-60-2, Brown 19-4-56-2, N M K Smith 37-10-103-0, Davis 39-8-94-3, Twose 1-1-0-0, P A Smith 8-2-28-0.

Bonus points: Lancashire 7 Warwickshire 5.



Fairbrother: century



Bevan blunders by shouldering arms to Warner and is removed leg-before first ball after lunch yesterday

Lean diet feeds Yorkshire's toil

BY SIMON WILDE

CHESTERFIELD (second day of four): Yorkshire, with two second-innings wickets in hand, are 127 runs ahead of Derbyshire

WHEN Somerset visited Chesterfield in 1947 and were sent packing in one day (all out for 68 and 38, George Pope 13 wickets for 50), Harold Gimblett was said to have gathered up his kit noisily from the cramped confines of the Queen's Park dressing-room and muttered: "We must have been looking at the ruddy spire instead of the sight-screen."

The famous upper reaches of St Mary's and All Saints Church may also have been uppermost in the thoughts of the Yorkshire players yesterday, judging by the way they went about turning a first-innings lead of 37 into an unassailable position against Derbyshire. In a little over two hours they staggered, reeled and tottered to 90 for eight and few of their troubles had much to do with what the ball was doing.

Perhaps they had one eye on the crooked spire and one on the scoreboard, which was certainly looking equally skew-whiff. A first day on which 16 wickets fell and two of the best batsmen on show sustained hand injuries can do awful things to second-day minds, and yesterday a few imaginations ran riot, especially after the two remaining Derbyshire wickets — Cullinan did not attempt to resume his innings — went down within 32 balls of the start.

Malcolm and DeFreitas, who will probably open the England bowling at Headingley next month, did enough to take five wickets between them before lunch without ever maintaining the sort of line and length George Pope would recognise. Malcolm was still warming up when Byas, having already driven a full toss to the boundary, dragged another wide ball in to his leg stump to the second ball of the innings.

DeFreitas removed Vaughan in his first over and Blakey and Grayson will not be proud of the catches they gave close to the wicket. The slip cordon toyed with Grayson before finishing him off, O'Gorman, at third slip, knocking up the ball for Barnett to complete the catch at gully.

Only White could count himself unfortunate, a neat clip off his legs being plucked out of the air by Harris, a substitute fielder, at square leg. Even so, White's contribution here has hardly enhanced his prospects of inclusion in England's party for the Texaco Trophy later this month.

Cork, a candidate for the all-rounder's spot himself, did his cause some good after lunch when he embarked on the best spell of the day, two fine balls accounting for Gough and Hartley. Warner had earlier removed Bevan leg-before, playing no stroke at the end of a worthy 28 from 25 overs, to the first ball after the interval. No sooner had Gough gone than the rain and hail arrived, bringing an early end.

There is apparently no question of the pitch, which has so far yielded 26 wickets for 407 runs, being reported either as unfit or poor. What verdict is brought in on the batsmen remains to be seen.

Cronje braves numbing cold

BY PAT GIBSON

CANTERBURY (second day of four): Leicestershire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 348 runs behind Kent

HANSIE CRONJE, who cannot have known too many days like this in his native Orange Free State, braved the biting north-east wind to score his first Championship century, but Leicestershire still have a long way to go if they are to avoid defeat by an innings and hypothermia.

They must have felt like Captain Scott and his team when they set off in pursuit of the 426 runs they needed to avoid the follow-on, numb with cold, and wondering if their ordeal would ever end after more than ten hours in the field.

It would have been longer if Benson, the Kent captain, had had his way. He was obviously distressed to be run out eight runs short of what would have been only the second double century of his long career, and allowed Kent's first innings to continue until it had reached 575, the biggest total they have ever made at Canterbury.

Benson himself had batted for six hours 25 minutes, and hit 24 fours when he set off for a single to extra cover, was sent back by his partner, Marsh, and run out by Cronje's throw, although the look he gave umpire Whitehead suggested that he was convinced that he had made his ground. He had offered just one chance at 181, a return catch which Pierson put down, off the 363rd ball he faced.

Benson's dismissal precipitated a collapse which saw three wickets fall without addition to the score, but since Kent already had 479 runs on the board, it did not seem to matter much. It mattered even less when Patel and McCague added to Leicestershire's discomfort with a ninth wicket stand of 95 in 34 overs.

Huddled in sweaters and goodness knows how many layers of thermal underwear, their pockets full of hand warmers, and with one player, Boon, wearing what looked like a turban to protect his neck and ears, Leicestershire seemed resigned to their fate as Patel went past his previous highest score — 55 for England A earlier this season — before he was stumped off the toiling Pierson.

McCague was run out in the next over, but his stay at the crease had obviously warmed him to the task of proving that he is far from a spent force as a fast bowler despite his tribulations with both Kent and England.

Extracting more life than anyone else had done from the hard, dry pitch, he bowled Briers, and had Boon caught at second slip in successive overs, and it was only Cronje who enabled Leicestershire to establish any kind of base camp.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Second day of four

Northants v Somerset

NORTHAMPTON. Somerset, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 68 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

SOMERSET: First Innings 242 (G D Rose 84, S C Ecclestone 81).

Second Innings

M N Lathwell c Snape b Kumble	18
M E Trescothick not out	83
P D Bowler lbw b Kumble	11
R J Harden lbw b Taylor	1
K A Parsons not out	0
Extras (b 8, lb 2)	10
Total (3 wkts)	123

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-39, 2-117, 3-122.

BOWLING: Taylor 11-3-41-1, Capel 5-1-17-0; Kumble 13-4-26-2; Curran 7-0-29-0.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

†R J Warren c Turner b Rose	15
A Fordham b Hayhurst	4
R J Bailey lbw b Rose	45
T C Walton c Turner b Rose	9
*A J Lamb c Trescothick b Hayhurst	13
K M Curran b Mushtaq	96
D J Capel lbw b Parsons	30
J N Snape not out	54
A Kumble c Trump b Mushtaq	0
J G Hughes lbw b Mushtaq	0
J P Taylor b Trump	8
Extras (b 4, lb 15, w 2, nb 2)	23
Total (93.3 overs)	297

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-30, 3-40, 4-75, 5-112, 6-204, 7-263, 8-273, 9-273.

BOWLING: Rose 23-7-67-3; Ecclestone 9-2-32-0; Hayhurst 12-2-39-2; Mushtaq Ahmed 26-6-77-3; Parsons 4-0-25-1; Trump 19.3-6-38-1.

Bonus points: Northamptonshire 6 Somerset 5.

Umpires: G I Burgess and B J Meyer.

Surrey v Durham

THE OVAL: Surrey, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 19 runs ahead of Durham

DURHAM: First Innings

*M A Roseberry c D J Bicknell b M P Bicknell	5
W Larkins c Stewart b Benjamin	2
J E Morris c Stewart b Benjamin	5
J A Daley c Thorpe b M P Bicknell	55
M Prabhakar c Nowell b Butcher	23
M Saxelby c Kersey b Nowell	68
S D Botgieck lbw b M P Bicknell	0
†D G C Ligertwood c Kersey b M P Bicknell	40
J Boiling c Kersey b Pigott	18
S J E Brown c Pigott b Benjamin	33
J P Searle not out	2
Extras (b 3, w 3, nb 12)	18
Total (102.1 overs)	269

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-15, 3-15, 4-45, 5-128, 6-142, 7-166, 8-210, 9-243

BOWLING: Benjamin 22.1-3-57-3, M P Bicknell 26-12-81-4, Butcher 13-3-32-1, Pigott 20-6-46-1, Nowell 16-7-38-1; Hollioake 5-1-12-0.

SURREY: First Innings

D J Bicknell st Ligertwood b Boiling	47
*A J Stewart not out	147
M A Butcher not out	89
Extras (lb 3, nb 2)	5
Total (1 wkt, 77 overs)	288

G P Thorpe, A D Brown, A J Hollioake, †G J Kersey, M P Bicknell, R W Nowell, A C S Pigott and J E Benjamin to bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-103

BOWLING: Brown 17-0-102-0; Prabhakar 18-8-51-0; Botgieck 9-2-46-0, Boiling 21-7-59-1, Searle 12-0-27-0.

Bonus points: Surrey 6 Durham 2.

Umpires: J W Holder and V A Holder.

Kent v Leicestershire

CANTERBURY: Leicestershire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 348 runs behind Kent

KENT: First Innings

T R Ward lbw b Millns	0
*M R Benson run out	192
N R Taylor c Whitticase b Mullally	127
P A de Silva c Boon b Pierson	57
M J Walker lbw b Millns	5
M A Ealham c Pierson b Mullally	38
†S A Marsh c Pierson b Parsons	41
S Herzberg c Whitticase b Pierson	0
M M Patel st Whitticase b Pierson	56
M J McCague c Wells b Pierson	35
D W Headley not out	1
Extras (lb 11, w 4, nb 8)	23
Total (160.5 overs)	575

Score at 120 overs: 428-5

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-182, 3-326, 4-331, 5-411, 6-479, 7-479, 8-473, 9-574.

BOWLING: Millns 25-3-123-2; Mullally 36-7-115-2; Parsons 28-6-86-1, Pierson 47.5-11-141-4; Cronje 9-2-47-0; Wells 15-4-44-0.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings

T J Boon c Benson b McCague	16
*N E Briers b McCague	7
W J Cronje not out	120
J J Whitaker c and b Headley	34
V J Wells c Walker b Patel	12
P E Robinson not out	25
Extras (b 1, lb 8, nb 4)	13
Total (4 wkts, 56 overs)	227

†P Whitticase, A R K Pierson, G J Parsons, A D Mullally and D J Millns to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-24, 3-102, 4-157.

BOWLING: McCague 11-2-51-2; Headley 15-4-55-1, Ealham 6-1-21-0; Patel 15-1-67-1; Herzberg 9-1-24-0.

Bonus points: Kent 5 Leicestershire 3

Umpires: K J Lyons and A G T Whitehead.

Gloucestershire v Notts

BRISTOL (Gloucestershire won toss). Gloucestershire have scored 388 for three wickets against Nottinghamshire

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

A J Wright c Archer b Pick	193
G D Hodgson c Afford b Evans	147
R I Dawson c Evans b Pick	0
M A Lynch not out	12
M W Alleyne not out	7
Extras (b 8, lb 9, nb 12)	29
Total (3 wkts, 110 overs)	388

A Symonds, *†R C Russell, J Srinath, M C J Ball, K P Sheerez and A M Smith to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-361, 2-383, 3-370.

BOWLING: Pick 19-1-76-2; Evans 20-5-39-1, Pennett 17-0-92-0; Mike 19-2-72-0, Afford 31-5-83-0; Archer 4-0-9-0.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: *R T Robinson, M P Dowman, G F Archer, P Johnson, C L Cairns, K P Evans, †B N French, G W Mike, R A Pick, J A Afford, D B Pennett.

Bonus points: Gloucestershire 4 Nottinghamshire 1

Umpires: J D Bond and B Dudleston.

Derbyshire v Yorkshire

CHESTERFIELD: Yorkshire, with two second-innings wickets in hand, are 127 runs ahead of Derbyshire

YORKSHIRE: First Innings 177

Second Innings

D Byas b Malcolm	4
M P Vaughan c Adams b DeFreitas	0
M G Bevan lbw b Warner	28
C White c sub b Malcolm	15
†R J Blakey c Bairstow b Malcolm	4
A P Grayson c Barnett b DeFreitas	9
D Gough b Cork	17
P J Hartley c Bairstow b Cork	9
R D Stemp not out	2
Extras (lb 1, w 1)	2
Total (8 wkts)	90

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-5, 3-30, 4-34, 5-49, 6-76, 7-85, 8-90.

BOWLING: Malcolm 11-3-41-3; DeFreitas 12-1-28-2; Cork 4 5-1-12-2, Warner 3-0-8-1.

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

*K J Barnett c Byas b Gough	6
A S Rollins c Byas b Hartley	38
C J Adams c Byas b Robinson	0
D J Cullinan retired hurt	1
T J G O'Gorman c Byas b Gough	13
D G Cork c Blakey b Gough	9
P A J DeFreitas b Hartley	25
T W Hamson c Blakey b Robinson	9
†A D Bairstow b Robinson	16
A E Warner not out	3
D E Malcolm c Bevan b Robinson	8
Extras (lb 2, nb 4)	6
Total (46 overs)	140

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-15, 3-35, 4-46, 5-80, 6-105, 7-117, 8-130, 9-140

BOWLING: Gough 17-3-38-3, Hartley 9-0-27-2; Robinson 17-6-58-4, White 3-0-15-0

Bonus points: Derbyshire 4 Yorkshire 4.

Worcestershire v Middlesex

WORCESTER: Middlesex, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 37 runs ahead of Worcestershire

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

W P C Weston c Brown b Fraser	2
*T S Curtis c Carr b Fraser	1
G A Hick b Fraser	59
T M Moody lbw b Feltham	5
G R Haynes lbw b Feltham	38
D A Leatherdale c Brown b Nash	32
†S J Rhodes c Emburey b Feltham	1
S R Lampitt lbw b Nash	14
P J Newport c Pooley b Feltham	13
R K Illingworth not out	14
A Wylie c Brown b Fraser	7
Extras (lb 7)	7
Total (68.3 overs)	193

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-3, 3-18, 4-106, 5-110, 6-118, 7-157, 8-172, 9-172.

BOWLING: Fraser 20.3-9-40-4; Nash 23-3-88-2, Feltham 22-5-55-4; Emburey 1-0-3-0.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

*M W Gatting b Illingworth	70
J C Pooley not out	100
M R Ramprakash c Weston b Moody	3
J D Carr c Hick b Newport	1
P N Weekes lbw b Newport	2
†K R Brown not out	26
Extras (b 4, lb 15, nb 9)	28
Total (4 wkts, 80 overs)	230

FALL: 1-120, 2-134, 3-149, 4-155

BOWLING: Newport 14-2-40-2; Wylie 8-2-43-0; Lampitt 14-0-58-0; Haynes 11-2-36-0; Illingworth 3-1-4-1; Moody 5-3-12-1; Leatherdale 5-0-18-0.

Bonus points: Worcs 1 Middlesex 5.

Glamorgan v Sussex

SWANSEA. Glamorgan have scored 173 for eight wickets against Sussex.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P James lbw b Lewry	0
*H Morris c Moores b Giddins	9
D L Hemp c Greenfield b Giddins	3
M P Maynard b Lewry	32
P A Cottey c Salisbury b Kirtley	17
A Dale c Greenfield b Giddins	20
R D B Croft c Moores b Giddins	28
H A G Anthony b Giddins	12
N M Kendrick not out	9
†C P Metson not out	15
Extras (b 5, lb 15, w 4, nb 4)	28
Total (8 wkts, 61 overs)	173

S L Watkin to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-10, 3-23, 4-64, 5-79, 6-118, 7-134, 8-144

BOWLING: Lewry 17-6-31-2; Stephenson 8-2-23-0; Giddins 25-6-71-5; Kirtley 11-3-28-1

SUSSEX: C W J Athey, J W Hall, M Newell, *A P Wells, K Greenfield, F D Stephenson, †P Moores, I D K Salisbury, R J Kirtley, J Lewry, E S H Giddins.

Bonus points: Glamorgan 0 Sussex 3.

Other matches

Second day of three

Cambridge Univ v Essex

FENNER'S. Essex, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 112 runs ahead of Cambridge University

ESSEX: First Innings 260 (N Hussain 88, A R Whittall 5 for 67)

Second Innings 27-2

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings

R T Ragnauth c Rollins b Derbyshire	6
J Ratledge c Lewis b Childs	9
†D R H Churton b Childs	10
R O Cake c Lewis b Childs	61
J P Carroll b Pearson	38
R A Battye c Lewis b Andrew	3
L P Clarke b Pearson	3
*A R Whittall c Gannham b Pearson	28
N J Haste not out	2
Extras (b 2, lb 7, nb 6)	15
Total (8 wkts dec, 74.3 overs)	175

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-22, 3-39, 4-128, 5-141, 6-141, 7-158, 8-175.

BOWLING: Cousins 15-2-38-0; Andrew 15-6-24-1, Childs 14-6-28-3; Pearson 19.3-5-58-3; Derbyshire 11-4-18-1.

Oxford Univ v Hampshire

THE PARKS. Oxford University, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 276 runs behind Hampshire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

V P Terry b Mather	22
R S M Morris c Malik b Mather	14
G W White c Malik b Kendall	57
*M C J Nicholas c Sutcliffe b Ricketts	120
P R Whittaker c Attfield b MacRobert	28
†A N Aymes not out	62
S D Udal c Jarrett b Attfield	26
Extras (b 1, w 1)	2
Total (6 wkts dec, 98.3 overs)	331

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-41, 3-134, 4-184, 5-292, 6-331.

BOWLING: MacRobert 22-5-57-1, Mather 27-7-81-2; Ricketts 21-3-66-1, Attfield 13.3-1-62-1; Kendall 3-0-12-1, Malik 10-0-41-0, Sutcliffe 1-0-8-0; Macmillan 1-0-5-0.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings 55-0.

Atherton's example followed by Stewart

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

THE OVAL (second day of four): Surrey, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 19 runs ahead of Durham

SINCE beating Hampshire in the first championship match of the season, and it is a poor team that doesn't, Durham have been lacerated by the broad swords of England's openers. Michael Atherton took an undefeated 155 off them on Monday. Alec Stewart, dropped before he had scored, made another hundred yesterday to put Surrey in command of this match.

Stewart, missed at second slip by Roseberry off Brown, went to his century from 140 balls with 17 boundaries and a straight six off Boiling, driven from three paces down the pitch. Boiling got his fingers to another drive when Stewart was 108. That went for four, a slight improvement. He also took the one wicket when Bicknell charged him, was deceived in the flight and Ligertwood performed a nifty stumping.

Fielding can compensate for a lot. Jason Searle, 19, was brought on to bowl his off spin and immediately found the shoulder of Butcher's bat. Nine times out of ten Boiling, at backward point, would have snaffled the chance while saying grace. Amazingly he spilled it. Butcher, 14 at the time, had made 89 by stumps.

They add up, these misses. Roseberry, at extra cover, granted Stewart another life on 118, though the ball was travelling at a fair pace. A bowler's lot is hard when fielders keep putting chances down and when the captain is the chief offender his task becomes no easier. Roseberry is new to the job and he will learn many a painful lesson before he feels he has the hang of it.

Strangely, this was only Stewart's third first-class hundred at the Oval since 1990. He played jolly well either side of a rain break that cost 26 overs, and showed up Durham's wretched performance. To be bowled out for 269 on this pitch is unforgiveable. Brown, the No 11, got 33 of those runs by taking his bat to the ball in a direct manner that displeased Martin Bicknell, who conceded 19 in an over.

Butcher, given the chance to claim a regular batting place, is grabbing it with both hands. He completed his fourth half-century in five championship innings with aplomb after that piece of good fortune, striking Boiling for two sixes over long on. Boiling got off lightly. Brown has conceded 102 runs from 17 overs.

Opening pair set county record

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

BRISTOL (second day of four, Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire have scored 388 for three wickets against Nottinghamshire

CANCEL those carefully considered pre-season predictions. All the pundits, myself included, who regarded Nottinghamshire as championship material and Gloucestershire as potentially the weakest side in the land will find yesterday's events here unfathomable. They will make sense, indeed, to very few outside the home dressing-room, where the belief now is that all things are possible.

Tony Wright and Dean Hodgson have suffered troughs in form during years that have seen Gloucestershire retreat to the unfashionable backwaters of county cricket. Yet here they were, imbued with the confidence that has so suddenly befriended all in their team, putting on 362 against an attack thought good enough to bring trophies to Trent Bridge.

It was a county record opening stand in championship cricket, surpassing the 315 by David Green and Arthur Milton at Hove in 1968, and although neither innings was chanceless, both men played uncommonly well. Wright, one of only three players past the age of 30 in the Gloucestershire side, pulled and cut voraciously while Hodgson's expansive driving was a delight. The final session, in which they added 132 in 26 overs, was almost embarrassingly one-sided until Hodgson wearily drove Evans to mid-off and the new batsman, Bobby Dawson, was cruelly but predictably out without scoring.

Wright, whose 193 from 311 balls was a career-best, also perished, caught at deep square-leg, in a final half-hour that bore no relation to what had gone before.

The pitch was perfection for batting — firmer and faster than of old on this ground — and Nottinghamshire, in mitigation, could call upon neither Cairns nor the absent Lewis. Cairns was on the field, a side strain preventing him from bowling, and he spent much of the day with hands in pockets, a mute symbol of resignation also practised by the captain, Robinson. It was a nightmarish day for Nottinghamshire. They dropped five catches and their bowling was one-dimensional, four right-arm seamers of hustling pace but little subtlety joined by a left-arm spinner, Afford, whose line was awry.

Taken in isolation, the day might have been thought a freak but Gloucestershire had already competed well in two previous championship games and, remarkably, won their first five one-day matches. Last year, they did not win one until July 10.

Jack Russell, the new captain, wears a smug smile as he explains his theories. Most of the squad reported back a month early, fast-forwarding the fitness routines and freeing April for proper cricket preparation. The newcomers, Monte Lynch and the talented multi-national Andrew Symonds, have been positive influences and the winning of some close games, which previously were lost as routine, means, as Russell puts it: "We have cracked the mental nut". Confidence is a fickle friend. But Gloucestershire, for the moment, are worth watching again.



Wright: career-best score

Trescothick keeps Somerset in hunt

BY JACK BAILEY

NORTHAMPTON (second day of four): Somerset, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 68 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

A WELCOME glimpse of form from Marcus Trescothick, whose undefeated 83 followed a tenacious Somerset performance in the field, kept them in this match with a good fighting chance. Thanks largely to persistently good bowling by Mushtaq in the sort of icy conditions that usually have leg spinners crying for mercy, Somerset limited Northamptonshire to a first-innings lead of 55.

Although Kumble followed Mushtaq's example by overcoming the conditions and snapping up two of the three wickets to fall before bad light stopped play close to the end, Trescothick was still in charge.

That Northamptonshire gained any sort of lead owed much to Kevin Curran's 96 and a sparkling 54 not out by young Jeremy Snape, who came in when six wickets had fallen for 204. Not only did Snape accompany Curran in a partnership of 59 as the senior man stuttered towards what would have been only his second century for Northants, but he played the innings of the day. His second successive half-century and Curran's innings were the mainstays of a Northamptonshire effort which faltered almost before it had begun.

No Caddick and no van Troost, but there was enough early bounce in the pitch for Rose and Hayhurst to exploit and rather more than Lamb expected. The second ball of the day resulted in a sharp, shoulder-high catch at second slip to Trescothick, who began his day as well as he ended it.

When Bailey was leg-before to the ever-willing Rose, having played pleasingly for a while, much depended on Curran. These days he is very much a batsman who bowls and he needed a century now. He nearly made it. First Capel, then Snape kept him company as he stroked the ball comfortably against all the bowlers but Mushtaq.

The nineties were his undoing, however. Curran reached 96, stayed there for 21 balls, drove at Mushtaq's googly in quest of both the coveted century and his fifteenth four, but only heard the death rattle of the stumps behind him. Snape went on to hit four astonishing ten fours.

As Trescothick played in masterly fashion after his recent dreadful run, Somerset could reflect that things were looking up.

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er cent above the inflation ate. Many people are earning his derisory rate on their avings, simply because they re not aware of the need to invest to get a better rate hen their certificates mature. ne hundred pounds invested the first index-linked prod- the Retirement Issue Cer- icates, sold in 1975 would w be worth £563, while £100 vested three years ago in the th issue certificates would w be worth £110. These rtificates pay a rate that is per cent above inflation for e years. Indexation is ad- ded to accounts on a nthly basis at a level equiv- nt to the RPI of two months viously.

ndex-linked gilts have some he same characteristics of ional Savings. However, are traded on the stock ket and offer the possibili- f capital growth, or loss, if are sold before they ure. If investors hold an x-linked gilt to its matu- ate, the amount of money will get back will be equal e amount they invested indexation. The income gilt pays is also inde- d. It is worth noting that indexation is accredited months in arrears. Hen- n Crothswaite, the bro- ecommends the Treasury cent 2006 index-linked ise it has the highest ption yield out of the linked gilts at 2.88 per

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Alesi and Berger make running

Ferrari accelerate back among Formula One elite

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN BARCELONA

THERE have been a few false dawns over the past three years, the odd win here and there and the occasional pole position, but now there is a real buzz around Ferrari again. The Italian giant is closing fast on the younger teams that have usurped its position and yesterday, on a track where their cars were not expected to excel, they were back up where they belonged.

Jean Alesi leapt to the top of the time charts early in the afternoon qualifying session for the Spanish Grand Prix tomorrow and spent the rest of it pacing nervously around his garage darting glances at the screens of figures. Midway through it, Gerhard Berger roared round this circuit in the gentle hills above the city a fraction of a second slower than his team-mate and their hegemony was complete.

David Coulthard, whose Williams-Renault was beaten into third place, led the praise for the latest surge in Ferrari's quest to recapture the championship they last won in 1983. "They are coming stronger and stronger," he said. "They are the force. They are hot on the trail. It is shaping up to be a very close fight at the top."

After the session, a bigger crowd than usual gathered outside the team motor home and mobbed Alesi as he tried to force his way in. Berger, one of the most popular drivers in the pit lane, chatted with friends in the paddock and craned his neck to peer at some fashion models sauntering past.

Jean Todt, the team's sporting director, insists it will be 1997 before Ferrari can launch a realistic bid for the championship. Luca di Montezemolo, the president and a publicist and an optimist, says it may be possible next year. This year, they have not considered, but although their race performances present more problems than qualifying, their challenge is growing.

"I must admit I am a bit surprised by this result," Berger said. "The Barcelona track is normally the least well-suited to our car. I still feel that in race trim we are not at the level of our strongest opponents but we are closing on them step by step.

"It looks like we now should be competitive everywhere not just on a power circuit like Hockenheim and Monza and that is what we really need. We need another two months to be really competitive but from then onwards we should be at the level of Williams and Benetton. For this race though I still think Hill is the favourite."

Hill, who leads the championship, was disappointed with his fifth place, unhappy about the series of "messy" laps and candid about a lack of balance in his Williams-Renault. "We are nowhere near where we should be at the moment," Hill said. "We need to do a lot of work."

Schumacher was also critical of the performance of his Benetton-Renault after his fourth place but he refused later to respond to Hill's attack on his character made the previous day. "I am not going to answer his verbal attack," the world champion said. "I have been there before with Hill and Berger and it serves no purpose. It certainly does not help during the race."

The imprecations of Hill and Schumacher were matched and then exceeded by Nigel Mansell, whose comeback is stuttering as he struggles with his new McLaren-Mercedes. Yesterday it almost reached crisis point when he finished twelfth, nearly two seconds adrift of his team-mate, Mika Hakkinen, and made no attempt to hide his unhappiness with the car.

"I have no doubt it is a fundamental car problem," he said. "No doubt at all. It is not balanced. You can make it worse or a little bit better but you will never fix it. I will qualify my remarks by saying Mercedes are a fantastic organisation and the team have an unprecedented track record."

In the early evening, a press conference had to be abandoned when Mansell's words were drowned out by the noise of practising Formula 3000 cars. It seemed to be symptomatic of the troubles and teething problems affecting the team but once the practice had finished, the press conference resumed and Mansell seemed more optimistic about his prospects for the season.

"We did not have the best of starts through no fault of anyone but we have got some way up to speed. I would give it another couple of races and then I will feel a lot more comfortable," he said.

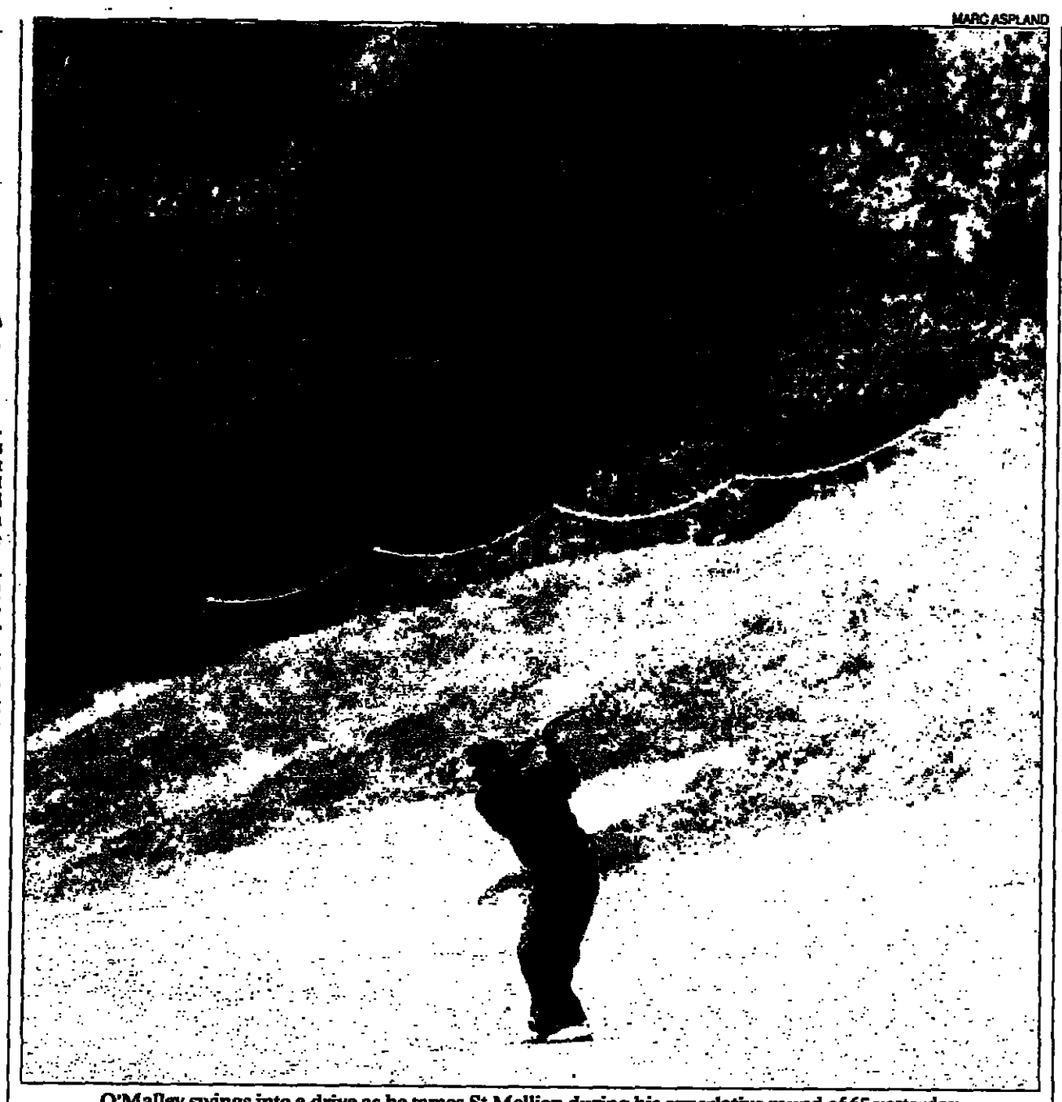
DETAILS

FIRST QUALIFYING SESSION: 1, J Alesi (Fr), Ferrari, 1min 23.104sec (127.961mph); 2, G Berger (Austria), Ferrari, 1:23.458; 3, D Coulthard (GB), Williams, 1:23.486; 4, M Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 1:23.535; 5, D Hill (GB), Williams, 1:24.356; 6, M Hakkinen (Fin), McLaren, 1:24.427; 7, J Herbert (GB), Benetton, 1:24.461; 8, E Irvine (GB), Jordan, 1:24.891; 9, H-H Frentzen (Ger), Sauber, 1:25.855; 10, O Panis (Fr), Ligier, 1:25.902; 11, U Katayama (Japan), Tyrrell, 1:26.033; 12, N Mansell (GB), McLaren, 1:26.246; 13, R Barrichello (Br), Jordan, 1:26.413; 14, M Salo (Fin), Tyrrell, 1:26.462; 15, M Brundle (GB), Ligier, 1:26.747; 16, T Inoue (Japan), Footwork, 1:26.846; 17, G Morbidelli (It), Footwork, 1:27.280; 18, J Verstappen (Holl), Simtek, 1:27.686; 19, P Martini (It), Minardi, 1:28.008; 20, K Wendlinger (Austria), Sauber, 1:28.305; 21, D Schiattarella (It), Simtek, 1:28.312; 22, L Badoer (It), Minardi, 1:28.563; 23, A Montermini (It), Pacific, 1:29.942; 24, B Gachot (Fr), Pacific, 1:30.429; 25, P Diniz (Br), Forti, 1:30.578; 26, R Moreno (Br), Forti, 1:31.063.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Drivers: 1, Hill 20pts; equal 2, Schumacher and Alesi 14, equal 4, Coulthard and Berger, 6, Hakkinen 5; equal 7, Herbert and Frentzen 3, 9, M Blundell (GB) 1. Constructors: equal 1, Williams-Renault and Ferrari 23; 3, Benetton-Renault 7; 4, McLaren-Mercedes 6; 5, Sauber-Ford 3.



MARC ASPLAND



O'Malley swings into a drive as he tames St Mellion during his superlative round of 65 yesterday

Blazing O'Malley defies cold

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THERE are days when the cogs and gears of the mind and the golf swing mesh so harmoniously that the game appears as easy as falling off a log. The ball leaps from the clubface with exceptional accuracy and every putt is easy to read. Even the hole seems to be 8½ not 4¼ inches in diameter. For a few blessed hours there is perfect harmony between intention and execution, mind and matter.

Peter O'Malley had one of those days in the Benson and Hedges International Open at St Mellion. While his countrymen, Robert Allenby and Peter Senior, respectively ran up a nine on one hole and an eight on another, and as resolute a performer as David Gilford could do no better than an 82, POM, as he is known, equalled the course record.

All in all it was Australia's day. First it was announced that next year the European Tour will expand into Australia and Singapore with an agreement to share the running of the Johnnie Walker Asian Classic in Singapore and the Heineken Classic in Perth in January and February 1996. This is a positive attempt by the Tour to improve the quality of competition and courses in the early part of the season.

Then came O'Malley's 65. It was a remarkable round, the best in Europe so far this year considering the conditions and the difficulty of the course, more meritorious than Wayne Westner's 62 set at altitude at The Wanderers in Johannesburg and Colin Montgomerie's 63 in Dubai.

On this May day, little more than 30 days before midsummer, rain fell, so did hail, and a wind gusted around the Cornish hills. Meteorologically, it was bizarre even by the bizarre standards of the British summer. At breakfast-time the sky was as blue as a sailor's trousers; later it became as dark as Severiano Ballesteros's brow. In between, it was warm one minute, cold the next. The wind knifed through all but the thickest clothing.

These conditions took their toll. Nearly 20 players scored in the eighties and four in the sixties. After O'Malley's, the next lowest score was Ray-

Nick Faldo returned from a three-week break to score a four-under-par 66 and trail Glen Day, the leader, by three shots after the opening round of the Byron Nelson Classic in Irving, Texas. Faldo's round was overshadowed by Day's flawless 63.

mond Burns's 67. O'Malley hit every fairway from the tee, all but two of the greens from the fairway. O'Malley, who shared second place after the first round, has opened up a five-stroke lead over Colin Montgomerie, who felt pretty satisfied with his 71, and six over Mark James.

The Australian won the 1992 Scottish Open by covering the last five holes in seven under par, racing past the leader, Colin Montgomerie. According to Montgomerie, some professionals become afraid when they start to score exceptionally well. "Some players get to nine or ten under and then they want in," Montgomerie said. "They say to themselves 'that's good enough for the day because when is the next mistake coming along?'. Peter O'Malley is different. He is not frightened to go low. He says: 'I'm two ahead, let's get three ahead or four ahead.' At one stage he was eight ahead. He has done very well so far."

On such a tight course as St Mellion it helps to be accurate with the driver and O'Malley is. He played safe by using a three-wood or an iron from the tee on only two of the 14 driving holes. He hit some crisp and accurate iron shots, and he putted beautifully.

Portrait, page 42

Australians seek urgent response to rival code approaches

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Rugby Football Union (RFU) may have been hoping for a minor crisis to divert attention from their own affairs of the past week and yesterday their prayer was answered as southern-hemisphere representatives arranged to meet the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) working party on amateurism.

Australasia's haste to embrace a professional international game was given wings by reports from Sydney that, despite agreements to the contrary, approaches had been made by rugby league "interests" to at least one member of the Australia World Cup squad. The IRFB working party will convene in London tomorrow but, before they do so, they will hear representations from Australia's Dick McGruther and RFU representatives, who will doubtless approach the issue from opposite ends of the spectrum.

It is Australia's contention that the threat of the "Super League" in rugby league means that decisions have to be made regarding rugby union before the IRFB meeting on amateurism in Paris in August. However, Vernon Pugh, who chairs the working party, will try to convince his colleagues that decisions made at haste may be repented of at leisure.

The RFU has already discovered that, after last weekend's Will Carling affair, which was discussed by the union's executive committee yesterday. There was general support for the stand taken by Dennis Easby, the president, and his reasons for dismissing Carling as England captain and also endorsement for the subsequent reversal of that decision. "It is the earnest wish of the RFU and the England squad that the matter be regarded as closed," a committee statement ran; would that life were so simple.

Meanwhile, the last pip will be squeezed out of the domestic season today, before the departure of England's A team to Australia on Tuesday and the seniors to South Africa and the World Cup the next day. The under-21 team meet their



Haag: Bath team leader

Italian counterparts in Viadana, while the Middlesex sevens, sponsored by Save and Prosper, bring down the curtain at Twickenham.

An England VII linked the two events by contesting the Melun sevens last weekend, reaching the final where they lost to France. Rob Kitchin, their captain, was named the player of the tournament. Kitchin, the Harlequins scrum half, is included in his club's squad at Twickenham, where the appearance of West Sussex Institute is a reminder of the great old days of the tournament. West Sussex, the teacher training college in Chichester, emerged from the qualifying group that included Saracens and will lay claim to the support of an anticipated 52,000 crowd.

Their reward for reaching finals day is a meeting with Leicester, the league champions, while Haywards Heath meet one of the two guests sides, Ithuba, a team drawn from the development areas of South Africa. Bath, the holders of the Russell Cargill Trophy, will be led by Martin Haag, who so enjoyed himself last week by scoring two tries in the Pilkington Cup final.

MIDDLESEX SEVENS DRAW: Blackheath v Orrell (11.20); Wasps v Gloucester (11.40); West Sussex IHE v Leicester (12.0); Northampton v Salfark (12.20). Ithuba v Haywards Heath (12.40); London Scottish v Harlequins (1.0); Bristol v Reading (1.20); Bath v Rosslyn Park (1.40).

Pooley hits century to cement place

BY GEOFFREY WHEELER

A RARE failure by Mark Ramprakash was more than compensated for by some stirring strokes from Mike Gatting and a maiden championship century from Jason Pooley as Middlesex maintained their advantage over Worcestershire at New Road yesterday.

Angus Fraser and Mark Feltham each took four wickets as Worcestershire were dismissed for 193, a modest total which would have been even more so but for a fourth-wicket partnership of 88 between Graeme Hick and Gavin Haynes.

Gatting, in his new role as opening batsman, then made it look a different game as he tore into the new-ball attack, reach 50 from 40 balls with 11 fours. He had made 70 out of 120 when he was bowled by Illingworth trying to cut.

Ramprakash, who went to the crease with an average of 107, fell to Tom Moody for three and when Phil Newport took two wickets cheaply, Middlesex had slipped to 155 for four. But Pooley, given his chance after the departure of Mike Roseberry and Desmond Haynes, moved on to his century from 174 balls and was still there at the close when Middlesex were 37 ahead.

The four-strong Sussex seam attack proved a rare handful for the Glamorgan batsmen on another rain-shortened day at Swansea which finished with the championship leaders at 173 for eight.

Ed Giddins picking up five for 71 from 25 overs and James Kirtley marked his debut by by removing Tony Cottey with the aid of a fine catch by Ian Salisbury at second slip.

West Indies confident as tour gets underway

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

WESLEY HALL, the West Indies tour manager, has no time for the theory that his players will be unprepared for the one-day internationals against England, which begin on May 24. "It is the game we have always played, the one we play naturally," he said. "We will be ready. It is England who will have the problems."

With his booming voice and his ready wit, Hall could pass for a politician, which indeed he is, or perhaps a boxing promoter. The great and theatrical fast bowler of another era is destined to be among the sporting showmen of the summer but his implicit belief in his team is genuine.

After four days of practice at Lord's, West Indies have only this weekend's two limited-overs fixtures, plus three-day matches against Worcestershire and Somerset, as preparation for the three-match Texaco Trophy series, but Hall considers this adequate.

The tour begins, as is traditional, within the walls of Arundel Castle. The compressed nature of the programme, because of the West Indies's unusually late arrival, means that the game against Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk's XI is on a Saturday rather than its regular Sunday.

Paul Parker will captain the home team, whose attack will be spearheaded by a man considered unlucky not to be among the tour party, Vasbert Drakes.

Norman Cowans and Kevan James, of Hampshire, are included and both may also feature tomorrow, when Hampshire expect something close to a capacity crowd at Southampton.

Claymores kick-start bid for World Bowl

THE second half of the World League of American Football begins tonight in Düsseldorf and Barcelona with all six teams level once more as the records are wiped clean (Richard Wetherell writes). The next five games will decide who plays the Amsterdam Admirals in the World Bowl next month.

That comes as a great relief to the Scottish Claymores, with only one win in the first five, who take on Rhein Fire today. Poor field-goal kicking was partly to blame in three narrow defeats by one, two and three points and kicker, Arden Czyzewski, has been released and replaced by Sean Conley.

Today's other game involves the teams with the best records when the unbeaten Admirals visit Barcelona Dragons (3-2).

Davies puts up stout defence

GOLF: Laura Davies, the defending champion, was two strokes off the lead after the opening round of the McDonald's LPGA Championship in Wilmington, Delaware. Davies, the leading money-winner on the US tour this year, scored a 68, three under par, to trail the early leader, Kelly Robbins. Seeking her first victory since the Jamie Farr Toledo Classic last year, Robbins scored five birdies in a round of 66 and finished a stroke ahead of a group of four which included Patty Sheehan and Dottie Mochrie, her fellow Americans.

Difficult test for England

HOCKEY: England begin their build-up for the European women's championship next month with a match today at the Concord Sports Centre in Sheffield against Germany, the team they beat to take the gold medal four years ago. But since then many things have changed. Last summer England were beaten 3-0 by Germany in the World Cup and are still trying to regain their confidence and a winning habit.

Asian men dominate

TABLE TENNIS: The European challenge for the men's world championship ended in Tianjin, China yesterday as Kim Taek-soo, of South Korea, joined three Chinese players in the semi-finals. There were several surprise results, including that of the world No 2, Wang Tao, who was beaten by Kim 21-18, 21-16, 21-18. Chinese hopes rest largely on two teenagers, Kong Linghui and Liu Guoliang.

Curran seeks fifth victory

CYCLING: Paul Curran attempts to win the 102-mile Lincoln Grand Prix for the fifth time tomorrow. The Thornaby amateur is a former British hill-climb champion, which should stand him in good stead for the 13 ascents of Michaelgate, a cobbled 1:6 ascent. "The real race will be to the bottom of the hill for the last time," he said yesterday. "If I am with the leaders at that point, I should be in with a chance."

FOR THE RECORD

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (AFL): Richmond 10.12 (72) bt Adelaide Crows 9.4 (58).

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Detroit 8 Milwaukee 0; Oakland 3 Seattle 1; Texas 6 California 2; New York 12 Toronto 11.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal 13 Philadelphia 1; Colorado 10 San Francisco 4; Houston 12 Pittsburgh 4; New York 5 Atlanta 3; Cincinnati 3 Florida 1 (15 inns).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Play-offs (best-of-seven series): Eastern Conference: Semi-final: Indiana 97 New York 95 (overtime, Indiana lead 2-1). Western Conference: Semi-final: Phoenix 118 Houston 94 (Phoenix lead 2-0).

BOXING

BERLIN: World amateur championships: Semi-finals: Light-flyweight: S Ihm (Fr) bt J Ramirez (Cuba) 10-6; Daniel Petrov (Bul) bt H Bashlla (Mor) 6-3. Bantam: R Ciba (Pol) bt D Kruger (Ger) 4-3; R Malechbekow (Russ) bt A Mikaelin (Armenia) 14-7. Light: B Wanselle (Fr) bt P Rojas (Cuba) 12-9; L Dorofiei (Rom) bt M Rudolph (Ger) 13-5. Welter: O Saitov (Russ) bt V Karpaciauskas (Lith) 14-3; J Hernandez (Cuba) bt A Otto (Ger) 7-3. Middle: A Hernandez (Cuba) bt D Jarbekov (Uzbekhistan) 6-1; T Borowski (Pol) bt M Mesbahi (Mor) 5-4. Heavy: F Savon (Cuba) bt C Mandy (Fr) 9-6; L Krasniq (Ger) bt S Samil-Sam (Tur) 7-3.

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Tottenham Hotspur 1 Southampton 1.
BRAZILIAN LEAGUES: Sao Paulo: Santos 2 Juventus 0; Corinthians 0 XV de Piracicaba 0; Palmeiras 0 Ponte Preta 0.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Gobbolin Cup: Final: South Notts 8 Worksop 0. Eccles Trophy: Final: South Leicester 0 Leicester 0 (aet).
FA YOUTH CUP FINAL: First leg: Tottenham Hotspur 2 Manchester United 1.

GOLF

ST MELLION: Benson and Hedges International Open: Leading second-round scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 133: P O'Malley (Aus) 68, 65. 138: C Montgomerie 67, 71. 139: M James 71, 68. 141: R Boxall 68, 73. 142: E Darcy 69, 73. 143: P Senior (Aus) 69, 74; G Evans 70, 73; G Turner (NZ) 72, 71; M Haltberg (Swe) 74, 69; R Burns 76, 67. 144: J M Olazabal (Sp) 70, 74; S Torrance 71, 73; F Nobilo (NZ) 73, 71; B Langer (Ger) 74, 70; G Emerson 74, 70. 145: P Broadhurst 68, 77; D Clarke 71, 74; B Lane 74, 71; C Rocca (It) 72, 73. 146: D Hospital (Sp) 71, 75; E Canonica (It) 71, 75; B Gallacher 74, 72; S Struver (Ger) 73, 73. J Cocares (Arg) 73, 73, S Tinning (Den) 69, 78, C Mason 71, 75; C Cassala 72, 74; A Cejka (Ger) 74, 72; C Cawser (Fr) 71, 75.
IRVING, Texas: Men's tournament: Leading first-round scores (United States unless stated): 63: G Day. 64: J D Blake, M Calcavecchia. 65: N Ozaki (Japan), D Watkins, C DiMarco, R Freeman, K Perry, R Stewart (Can), D Martin. 66: C Stadler, M Standly, N Faldo (GB), M Wurtz, D Tewell, J Williamson, H Irwin, S Gotsche, C Rymer, R Hoyt. Other British score: 72: D Feherty.
WILMINGTON, Delaware: LPGA Championship: Leading first-round scores (United States unless stated). 68: K Robbins 67: P Sheehan, D Mochrie, M Morris, B Iverson. 68: A Ritzman, L Davies (GB). 69: E King, T Green, T Hanson. 70: C Walker, B Thomas, L Neumann (Swe), M Mallon, L Kiggens. Other British scores: 71: P Johnson 73: C Pierce. 74: S Strudwick. 75: C Matthew. 76: A Nicholas. 77: H Dobson.
COSTA AZUL, Portugal: Women's tournament: Leading second-round scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 138: V Michaud (Fr) 69, 69. 139: C Dibnah (Aus) 67, 72; M-L de Lorenzi (Fr), 72, 67. 140: L Fairclough 73, 67; E Orley (Switz) 68, 72. 141: S Hodge 73, 68; P Rigby (Swe) 71, 70. 143: K Webb (Aus) 67, 76. 144: P Meumer (Fr) 74, 70; L Hackney 72, 72. 145: K Marshall 69, 76. 146: D Dowling 75, 71; R Hetherington (Aus) 71, 75; S Dallongeville (Fr) 73, 73; K Douglas 74, 72; A Arruti (Sp) 70, 76. S Bennett 76, 70. 147: M Sutton 73, 74; S Waugh (Aus) 71, 76; F Pike, 74, 73; A Rogers 72, 75.

HOCKEY

CARDIFF: Women's four nations tournament: Scotland 5 (MacDonald 3, Gilmour, S Fraser), Belgium 0; Wales 1 (Y Williams), Ireland 1 (Kelleher).

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Play-offs: First round (best-of-seven series): Western Conference: Toronto 2 Chicago 3 (Toronto lead 2-1); Dallas 1 Detroit 5 (Detroit lead 3-0); Calgary 9 San Jose 2 (San Jose lead 2-1); Vancouver 6 St Louis 1 (Vancouver lead 2-1).

JUDO

BIRMINGHAM: European championships qualifying: Men: Under-60k: N Donchice (GB) bt P Caravana (Por); Donchice bt O Sussev (Bul). Under-65k: S Moss (GB) lost to B Demirel (Tur). Under-71k: D Kingston (GB) bt B Crean (Ire); Kingston lost to C Gegiano (Fr). Repechage: Kingston bt J Jovanovic (Yug). Kingston bt F Lepre (It). Open: D Sargent (GB) lost to M Pisula (Pol). Women: Under-48k: J Heron (GB) bt J Pinhatro (Por); Heron lost to G Tomasik (Ger). Repechage: Heron bt M Roszkowska (Pol). Under-52k: S Rendle (GB) bt K Kirova (Bul); Rendle lost to L Tignola (Fr). Repechage: Rendle bt M Stojelonic (Yug). Under-56k: N Fehrbrother (GB) bt M Krey (Den); Fehrbrother bt K Peth (Fr). Open: J Horton (GB) lost to T Bojilova (Bul). Repechage: Horton lost to R Barrientos (Sp).

MOTOR RALLYING

LONDON-MEXICO RALLY: Stage 27 (Cuba to Cali): 1, H Mikkola (Fin) and G Palm (Swe), Ford Escort, 6hr 21min 20sec; 2, R Dunkerton (Aus) and H Mansson (Aus), Datsun 240Z, 6:30:21; 3, R Martin-Hurst (GB) and W Koningsveld (Holl), Ford, Escort 7:01:33; 4, D Rainsford (Aus) and B Rainsford (Aus), Ford Mustang, 7:03:33; 5, T Fall (GB) and R Dixon (GB), Volvo, 7:11.09; 6, B Hodgson (Aus) and P McClintock (Ire), Ford Falcon, 7:14.12.

RUGBY LEAGUE

WINFIELD CUP: Western Suburbs 32 Perth Western Reds 8.

SWIMMING

CRYSTAL PALACE: Bath Cup (4 x 100m freestyle): 1, Robert Gordons College 3min 51.77sec; 2, Campbell College 3:52.73; 3, Eltham College 4:00.01. The Aldenham Cup: (4 x 100m freestyle): 1, City of London Freemen's 4:00.74; 2, Durham School 4:02.12; 3, Alleyns School 4:05.14. The Girl's Inaugural Freestyle Relay: 1, Bolton School 2:03.07; 2, Alleyns School 2:05.92; 3, City of London Freemen's 2:06.71.

TABLE TENNIS

TIANJIN, China: World championship: Men's singles: Fourth round: Ding Song (China) bt J Persson (Swe) 21-13, 18-21, 17-21, 25-23, 21-19; Liu Guoliang (China) bt J-O Waldner (Swe) 21-17, 22-20, 18-21, 17-21, 21-19; V Samsonov (Belo) bt J Rosskopf (Ger) 22-20, 15-21, 15-21, 21-13, 21-16; Kim Taek-soo (S Kor) bt Wang Yonggang (China) 21-15, 19-21, 18-21, 21-18, 21-9; Wang Tao (China) bt Ding Yi (Aut) 21-6, 21-11, 21-17; L Blaszczyk (Pol) bt Ma Wenge (China) 21-18, 21-15, 21-16; P Karlsson (Swe) bt P Franz (Ger) 21-17, 21-18, 21-16; Kong Linghui (China) bt J-P Gatien (Fra) 21-16, 18-21, 21-10, 17-21, 21-8. Quarter-finals: Ding Song bt Blaszczyk, 21-13, 21-10, 21-18; Kong Linghui bt Karlsson, 21-18, 23-25, 21-11, 21-11; Liu Guoliang bt Samsonov, 21-18, 21-18, 21-12; Kim Taek-soo bt Wang Tao, 21-15, 21-15, 21-18. Women's singles: Fourth round: Deng Yaping (China) bt Zhu Fang (China) 21-18, 21-13, 21-19; Geng Lijuan (Can) bt Chen Zihe (China) 21-16, 21-8, 21-12; Liu Wei (China) bt J Schopp (Ger) 8-21, 21-7, 21-8, 21-15; Wang Nan (China) bt Xu Jing (Tai) 17-21, 21-12, 19-21, 21-9, 21-17; Yang Fe-ming (Tai) bt N Struse (Ger) 21-19, 21-16, 20-22, 21-23, 24-22; Qiao Yunping (China) bt C Batorfi (Hun) 21-8, 22-20, 21-12; Chen Jing (Tai) bt Yang Ying (China) 14-21, 21-14, 21-18, 21-16; Qiao Hong (China) bt Chan Tan-lui (HK) 21-13, 21-19, 21-7. Quarter-finals: Deng Yaping bt Geng Lijuan, 21-12, 21-13, 21-10; Liu Wei bt Wang Nan, 21-6, 21-16, 21-15; Qiao Yunping bt Yang Fei-ming, 21-13, 19-21, 21-16, 21-8; Qiao Hong bt Chen Jing, 21-12, 21-12, 21-16. Mixed doubles: Semi-finals: Wang Tao and Liu Wei (China) bt E Lindh and M Svensson (Swe) 21-13, 23-25, 21-9, 21-8; Kong Linghui and Deng Yaping (China) bt Lee Chul-seung and Ryu Ji-hye (S Kor) 21-18, 21-18, 18-21, 21-7. Final: Wang and Liu bt Kong and Deng, 24-22, 21-18, 21-9.

TENNIS

HAMBURG: German Open: Quarter-finals: A Medvedev (Ukr) bt A Gaudenzi (It) 6-3, 6-2; S Bruguera (Sp) bt A Agassi (US) 6-3, 6-1; G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt M Rossel (Switz) 6-1, 6-3; P Sampras (US) bt W Ferreira (SA) 6-2, 6-2.
LEE-ON-SOLENT: Satellite tournament (GB unless stated): Men: Quarter-finals: J Salulov (Aus) bt J Delgado 4-6, 6-1, 6-1; N Utgren (Swe) bt M Maclagan 6-7, 6-7; O Stanoichev (Bul) bt D Sanders 6-1, 7-6; T Lanham (Aus) bt G Doyle (Aus) 6-4, 6-3. Women: Semi-finals: J Dune bt R Mawdsley (Aus) 6-3, 2-6, 6-1; K Cross bt J Callen (US) 7-6 7-5.
ROME: Italian Open women's tournament: Third round: I Majoli (Cro) bt J Wiesner (Austria) 4-6, 7-6 (9-7), 7-6; M J Fernandez (US) bt M McGrath (US) 6-1, 6-1; M Pierce (Fr) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 6-2, 6-0; A Sanchez Vicario bt A Coetzer 6-3, 6-2. Quarter-finals: C Martinez (Sp) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-4, 6-3.
PINEHURST, North Carolina: Men's tournament: Second round: M Larsson (Swe) bt N Pereira (Ven) 6-2, 6-3, J Hlasek (Switz) bt G Elia (Arg) 6-3, 6-4; J Arrese (Sp) bt G Raoux (Fr) 7-6, 7-6; D Wheaton (US) bt P McEnroe (US) 3-6, 6-3, 6-3; J Frana (Arg) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 2-6, 6-2, 6-4; J Palmer (US) bt G Russelski (Can) 6-4, 7-6.
PRAGUE: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: J Halard (Fr) bt A Carlsson (Swe) 5-7, 6-2, 6-3; S Rottier (Holl) bt B Schett (Austria) 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

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Talented Walwyn-trained colt can throw down the gauntlet to Pennekamp

Munwar to make impact on Derby scene

By Julian Muscat

WITH ground conditions governing Celtic Swing's participation in the Derby, the search for a worthy opponent to Pennekamp has become all the more intense. We need look no further. Munwar has it in him to fill that breach, and he is confidently expected to advance his case in the Tripleprint Derby Trial at Lingfield Park today.

Even without the natural enthusiasm of his trainer, Peter Walwyn, Munwar's credentials speak for themselves. The bay advanced on a debut brimful with promise last season to dismiss eight opponents in the Hayes, Hanson and Clark Stakes on the last of his two starts. That Newbury contest has in the past proved an early playground to some subsequently formidable racehorses.

Both those juvenile outings came on easy ground. But Munwar, a colt blessed with the most rhythmic of strides, was always likely to thrive on faster ground. His full-brother, Hateel, bounced off a sound surface, as did their sire, Kalaglow. And so it proved at Newmarket on his last start, when Willie Carson asked him for the minimum of effort to repel Flemensfirth and Eltish.

Eltish has since run with credit in the Kentucky Derby and Flemensfirth is to contest a group one race in France tomorrow. These pointers alone offer ample testament to the quality of Munwar's Newmarket victory.

Walwyn, of course, trained Grundy to win the Derby 20 years ago. He is too wise a hand to be making comparisons at this early stage. Yet he promises a more seasoned horse at Lingfield. "He went very nicely this morning," the trainer said yesterday, "and he is moving like a dream. He is coming to himself a bit more every day, although he is still not quite there in his coat. He is going to get better and better as time goes by."

Looking ahead to Epsom, Munwar, Presenting and Celtic Swing are similar in their ability to lengthen off a fast pace. If they raced as individuals, they would all be vulnerable to Pennekamp's turn of foot. With a collective effort, however, they could just as easily draw the sting from the French-trained horse.

"I just wonder what would happen to Pennekamp over an extra four furlongs," Walwyn mused. "He was very impressive over the mile at Newmarket but I really don't know whether he will properly get 12 furlongs. Anyway, it's all conjecture at this stage. First, my horse has to come out and do his bit in the trial."

Balliol Boy, Commoner, In Camera and the impressive maiden winner, Riyadian, should provide Munwar with a meaningful test. The form of Balliol Boy's defeat behind Pentire and Singspiel was first devalued by the latter's heavy Chester defeat and then boosted by Pentire's victory at the same venue 24 hours later. More pertinent is that Balliol Boy delighted connections when he worked over ten furlongs at Newmarket on Wednesday. He appears the main danger to Munwar.

In Camera, well supported on his return at Newmarket, looked most unlucky when hemmed in for much of the race. He made amends with a wide-margin victory in minor company, but the form does not amount to much.

Commoner made Presenting earn his Kempton victory last month but the latter was a different animal when winning impressively at Newmarket last week. Commoner is talented, although wherever he finishes here, we should not read too much into its bearing on Presenting's ability.

Nevertheless, it will be disappointing if he proves up to the task. As for the Derby, nothing less than an authoritative performance from Munwar will suffice. Between them, Pennekamp and Celtic Swing have relegated most of the Derby trials to a lesser status. Munwar can buck the trend and ensure the Blue Riband is more than a potential 2,000 Guineas rematch.

□ Richard Dunwoody, the champion National Hunt jockey, was successful yesterday in his appeal against a two-day suspension imposed by the Haydock stewards last Saturday. He had been banned for using his whip with unreasonable frequency on Moving Out.



Munwar, centre, beating Flemensfirth, right, and Eltish in the Feilden Stakes at Newmarket last month. Photograph: Julian Herbert

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: PADDY'S RICE (4.30 Lingfield Park)

Nb: Broughtons Turmoil (4.00 Lingfield Park)

Pitcroy to master Bunting

LINGFIELD PARK

BBC1

2.00: Queenfisher improved when stepped up to seven furlongs last season. She has the form to win this but ran much too freely in the 1,000 Guineas six days ago and is best watched. Cheyenne Spirit disappointed recently after a winning return at Newmarket. However, her front-running tactics should set this up for **Daring Destiny**. Effective at this trip, Daring Destiny improved throughout last season and her sharp turn of foot can see her home.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.30: Pitcroy is preferred to Bunting in a disappointing contest. My selection shaped like a staying filly when running out a narrow winner at Sandown last month. She had Asterita and Kshessinskaya well behind on that occasion and should confirm her superiority here. Bunting found the slow pace against her when labouring to justify odds of 5-2 on at Beverley recently. With only five runners, this race might easily develop along similar lines.

3.00 See left.

Julian Muscat

Crow has plenty of choice

ALASTAIR CROW, four ahead in the point-to-point mens' title race, still has 29 horses to choose from for the last month of the season (Brian Beel writes).

Although entered at Erw Lon and Bredwardine today, it is likely that he will be at the latter as he is hoping to pick up a spare ride in the maiden.

Equity Player runs in the open but has a hard task against Lost Fortune and Real Class. In division one of the restricted Crow believes his Remembertom has a tremendous chance despite falling at Gisburn last Saturday, while Friary Lad should go well in the second division.

Korbell and Scally Muir go to Maisemore Park tomorrow, when nearest rival, Jim Tarry, could be in opposition in the PPOA on Lucky Christopher.

Tarry runs Fine Lace today at Kingston Blount and has the choice of Bright As A Button and Sunshine Manor in the confined. Saybright, injured earlier in the season, is likely to wait another week before his comeback but the stable will saddle course winner, Larry The Lamb, for Gi Chown to ride in the ladies'.

TODAY'S MEETINGS Border, Corbridge, 3m north of town (first race 1.00). Cambridge University, Cottenham, 5m N of Cambridge (5.30). Fernie, Dingley, 2m E of Market Harborough (2.15). Golden Valley, Bredwardine, 7m E of Hay-on-Wye (2.00). Llanderlo Farmers Erw Lon, 10m N of Carmarthen (2.00). Minehead, Holnicote, 3m W of Minehead (2.00). Surrey Union, Peper Harow, 2m W of Godalming (2.00). Tedworth, Barbury Castle, 4m S of Swindon (2.00). Tetcott, Lifton, 3m N of Launceston (2.00). Vale of Aylesbury, Kingston Blount, 4m NE of Watlington (4.30). TOMORROW: Cotswold Vale, Maisemore Park, 2m NW of Gloucester (3.00). South Durham, Great Stainton, 5m SW of Sedgefield (2.30).

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Redcar (first race, 2.15), Southwell (AW) 2.30, Towcester (6.10), Windsor (6.00).
TUESDAY: Chepstow (1.45), York (C4, 2.00).
WEDNESDAY: Hereford (1.45), Huntingdon (6.05), Perth (6.20), York (C4, 2.00).
THURSDAY: Aintree (5.45), Folkestone (6.00), Salisbury (2.10), Perth (1.50), York (C4, 2.00).
FRIDAY: Newbury (BBC, 2.05), Newmarket (2.15), Newton Abbot (6.00), Stratford (6.15), Thirsk (2.00).
SATURDAY: Bangor (11.35), Fakenham (6.10), Hamilton Park (6.20), Lingfield Park (6.00), Newbury (2.00), Southwell (11.50), Thirsk (2.15).
SUNDAY: Newbury (BBC, 2.00), Ripon (2.15).

Flat meetings in bold

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LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.30 Brass Tacks
2.00 Queenfisher
2.30 Bunting
3.00 Munwar
3.30 **SHAHID** (nap)
4.00 Knobbleeneeze
4.30 Paddy's Rice
5.00 Decorated Hero

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.00 **MUNWAR**.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Bunting, 3.00 Balliol Boy.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

1.30 EUROPHARM GROUP MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: £3,969: 7f) (11 runners)

1 (11) 022203- RED RITA 297 (T Brady) W Muir 4-9-5 .... T Quinn ◉
2 (6) 0/5 TADELLAL 33 (R Whitaker) M Dixon 4-9-5 .... S Sanders (3) 82
3 (1) CHINESE VIKING (K Higson) G L Moore 3-8-12 .... B Rouse –
4 (3) 62- FAKIH 221 (BF) (H Al Maktoum) A Stewart 3-8-12 .... W Carson 80
5 (10) MUBARIZ (H Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 3-8-12 .... L Dettori –
6 (7) 0- RAMSDENS 238 (B Haggas) W Haggas 3-8-12 .... M Hills –
7 (8) 30- BRASS TACKS 187 (BF) (Mrs D Strauss) R Hannon 3-8-7 .... Pat Eddery 94
8 (9) 0- H'ANI 329 (J Ashenheim) Mrs L Piggott 3-8-7 .... Victoria Appleby (7) 74
9 (4) 00 LIDHAMA 12 (Abdulla Al Khalifa) G Lewis 3-8-7 .... S Whitworth 73
10 (5) 0 MIDNIGHT MASS 16 (B) (N Knox) A Foster 3-8-7 .... R Painter (5) –
11 (2) 40- RUN-DO-RUN 190 (R Coombes) H Collingridge 3-8-7 .... M Rimmer 87

BETTING: 3-1 Red Rita, 5-1 Brass Tacks, Tadellal, Fakih, 6-1 H'Ani, 7-1 Run-Do-Run, 8-1 Mubariz, 10-1 others.

1994 NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

RED RITA 9l 3rd of 11 to Ingozi in maiden at Yarmouth (7f, good). TADELLAL about 9¾l 5th of 14 to Mokhtar in maiden at Folkestone (1m 4f, good to firm). FAKIH 11l 2nd of 16 to Bishop Of Cashel in maiden at Warwick (7f, soft). MUBARIZ: Half-brother by Royal Academy to useful 6f winner Mohawk Chief; dam juvenile 5f winner. RAMSDENS 13l 10th of 15 to Didina in maiden at Newbury (6f, soft). BRASS TACKS head and ¾l 3rd of 14 to Golden Lady in maiden at Leicester (6f, good) on penultimate start, with RUN-DO-RUN 2¼l 4th. H'ANI 11l 8th of 9 to Flendish in a maiden at Ascot (6f, good to firm). LIDHAMA 14l 9th of 30 to Krystallos in maiden at Windsor (1m 67yd, good).
Selection: TADELLAL

2.00 CRAWLEY WARREN CHARTWELL FILLIES STAKES (BBC1)
(Listed race: 3-Y-O: £12,623: 7f) (5 runners)

1 (4) 5512-52 DARING DESTINY 19 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Wright) K Burke 4-9-3 .... J Tate 97
2 (1) 4510-10 CHEYENNE SPIRIT 14 (F,G) (C Mauritzon) B Hanbury 3-8-5 .... W Ryan 98
3 (5) 03333-0 QUEENFISHER 6 (F) (K Higson) R Hannon 3-8-5 .... B Rouse ◉
4 (2) 21153-0 REGAL FANFARE 28 (F,G) (M Wauchope) J Hills 3-8-5 .... M Hills 95
5 (3) 21001-0 TWILIGHT PATROL 14 (D,F,S) (Cheveley Park Stud) R Hannon 3-8-5 Pat Eddery 93

BETTING: 5-4 Queenfisher, 7-4 Daring Destiny, 7-1 Regal Fanfare, 8-1 Cheyenne Spirit, Twilight Patrol.

1994: BRANSTON ABBY 5-9-7 M Roberts (4-1) M Johnston 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

DARING DESTINY 1½l 2nd of 9 to Wessam Prince in listed race at Evry (5f 110yd, soft). CHEYENNE SPIRIT beat Kabil 2½l in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm) on penultimate start. QUEENFISHER 8¾l 11th of 14 to Harayir in Madagan's 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket (1m, good to firm). Previously neck and 1¾l 3rd of 9 to Desidera in group III Moet & Chandon Rennen at Baden-Baden (6f, good). REGAL FANFARE 14l 12th of 13 to Subya in listed race at Kempton (1m, good to firm). Previously 2¼l 3rd of 26 to Mad For Walking in auction race at Redcar (6f, good). TWILIGHT PATROL 18l 9th of 13 to Hoh... in handicap at Sandown (1m, good). Previously beat Iommas ¾l in conditions race at York (7f, good to soft).
Selection: TWILIGHT PATROL

2.30 CHAMPAGNE RUINART OAKS TRIAL STAKES (BBC1)
(Listed race: 3-Y-O fillies: £12,286: 1m 3f 106yd) (5 runners)

1 (4) 22-5 ASTERITA 15 (B Nielsen) R Hannon 8-8 .... Pat Eddery 89
2 (3) 31-1 BUNTING 36 (F,G) (Mohammed Al Nabouda) J Gosden 8-8 .... L Dettori 98
3 (5) 6 KSHESSINSKAYA 15 (W Gredley) C Brittain 8-8 .... M Rimmer 76
4 (1) 20-0 LAST SPIN 18 (Mrs E Long) J Jenkins 8-8 .... T Quinn 84
5 (2) 2-1 PITCROY 15 (G) (Sir David Wills) J Fanshawe 8-8 .... D Harrison ◉

BETTING: 10-11 Bunting, 5-2 Pitcroy, 6-1 Asterita, 7-1 Kshessinskaya, 14-1 Last Spin

1994: MUNNAYA 8-8 W R Swinburn (15-8 fav) M Stoute 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ASTERITA 5l 2nd of 11 to Phantom Gold in maiden at Sandown (1m, good to soft) on penultimate start, with BUNTING neck 3rd. BUNTING beat Dee-Lady 1l in conditions race at Beverley (1m 2f, good to firm). LAST SPIN 18l 8th of 10 to Worldnews Extra in maiden auction at Pontefract (1m 2f, good). Best juvenile effort when ½l 2nd of 5 to Brave Revival in conditions race at Bath (1m, good). PITCROY beat Dawlah short-head in maiden at Sandown (1m 2f, good) with ASTERITA 9¾l 5th and KSHESSINSKAYA (4lb worse off) 1¼l 6th.
Selection: PITCROY (nap)

3.00 TRIPLEPRINT DERBY TRIAL STAKES (BBC1)
(Group III: 3-Y-O: £30,820: 1m 3f 106yd) (7 runners)

1 (5) 1-3 BALLIOL BOY 14 (G) (W Said) H Cecil 8-7 .... W Ryan 86
2 (7) 14-2 COMMONER 28 (S) (B Nielsen) R Hannon 8-7 .... Pat Eddery 86
3 (6) 566 HENRY KOEHLER 21 (W Gredley) C Brittain 8-7 .... M Rimmer 82
4 (4) 350-21 IN CAMERA 14 (F) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 8-7 .... L Dettori 79
5 (1) 13-5 LANCER 38 (F) (B Maguire) M Bell 8-7 .... M Fenton 78
6 (2) 31-1 MUNWAR 23 (F,S) (H Al Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-7 .... W Carson ◉
7 (3) 31 RIYADIAN 17 (G) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 8-7 .... T Quinn 83

BETTING: 4-6 Munwar, 7-2 Balliol Boy, 7-1 Commoner, 8-1 In Camera, Riyadian, 20-1 Henry Koehler, 33-1 Lancer

1994: HAWKER'S NEWS 8-7 W R Swinburn (5-1) M Stoute 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BALLIOL BOY neck and 1½l 3rd of 8 to Pentire in group III Thresher Classic Trial at Sandown (1m 2f, good). COMMONER 1l 2nd of 10 to Presenting in conditions race at Kempton (1m 2f, good to firm). HENRY KOEHLER 14¾l 6th of 9 to Celtic Swing in group III Tripleprint Greenham Stakes at Newbury (7f, good). IN CAMERA beat Routontame 7l in maiden at Leicester (1m 2f, good to firm). LANCER about 6¾l 5th of 7 to Torrential in conditions race at Ripon (1m 1f, good to soft). MUNWAR beat Flemensfirth 2½l in listed race at Newmarket (1m 1f, good to firm). RIYADIAN beat Quandary 3½l in maiden at Kempton (1m 2f, good).
Selection: MUNWAR

3.30 JAMES CAPEL RATED HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £8,133: 7f) (8 runners)

1 (2) 3126- MASRUF 257 (F) (H Al Maktoum) T Thomson Jones 9-7 .... S Whitworth 86
2 (6) 1063-50 AXEMAN 14 (F) (The Winning Team) R Hannon 9-1 .... Pat Eddery ◉
3 (1) 0202-11 SHAHID 18 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 9-0 .... W Carson 97
4 (3) 131001 BOLD EFFORT 6 (C,F,G) (A Richards) K Cunningham-Brown 8-13 .. M Baird (5) 98
5 (8) 1215-00 CAPTAIN'S DAY 14 (D,F,G) (W Norton) T Mills 8-11 .... Stephen Davies 96
6 (5) 20-2212 CHEWIT 37 (C,G) (Ballard (1834) Ltd) A Moore 8-8 .... Candy Morris 96
7 (4) 012- MUCHTARAK 198 (G) (H Al Maktoum) C Benstead 8-8 .... B Rouse 94
8 (7) 51-0 LANDLORD 17 (D,F) (A Morrison) J Toller 8-7 .... W Newnes 94

Long handicap: Landlord 8-6

BETTING: 5-4 Shahid, 9-2 Bold Effort, 6-1 Masruf, 7-1 Captain's Day, Landlord, 10-1 Chewit, 12-1 others.

1994: NIZAAL 8-7 R Hills (10-1) H Thomson Jones 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

MASRUF 1¾l 2nd of 5 to Done Well in conditions race at Newmarket (7f, good) on penultimate start. AXEMAN 11¾l 5th of 11 to Ibks in handicap at Newmarket (7f, good to firm) on penultimate start. SHAHID completed double beat Rokeby Bowl 1¾l in 8-runner handicap at Beverley (7f 100yd, good to firm). BOLD EFFORT beat Haiaid 2½l in 10-runner handicap at Salisbury (6f, good to firm). CAPTAIN'S DAY 13l 7th of 13 to Hoh... in handicap at Sandown (1m, good) with AXEMAN (1lb better off) 14l 13th. LANDLORD beat Albinor neck in 14-runner maiden at Kempton (7f, good to firm) on penultimate start.
Selection: SHAHID

4.00 OCS LADIES HANDICAP (£3,417: 7f) (16 runners)

1 (10) 301-620 SECOND CHANCE 49 (CD,F,G,S) P Mitchell 5-11-7 .... Miss H Mitchell (4) 96
2 (8) 221510- HELIOS 212 (CD,F,S) (Mrs C Painting) N Walker 7-11-4 .... Mrs M Cowdrey 88
3 (9) 00-5440 KNOBBLEENEEZE 10 (V,CD,F,G,S) (A Andrews) M Channon 5-11-2 Miss J Winter ◉
4 (11) 0030-15 MOON STRIKE 91 (CD,F,G) (A Foustok) W Jarvis 5-10-11 .... Miss I Foustok (4) 98
5 (1) 20000-0 ROBELLION 4 (F) (G Thompson) D Arbuthnot 4-10-9 .... Mrs D Arbuthnot 93
6 (5) 04110- BEN GUNN 189 (D,F,S) (M White) P Walwyn 3-10-1 .... Marchioness Blandford 94
7 (12) 052406 GREAT HALL 5 (B,C,F,G) (Miss M Fraser) P Cundell 6-10-0 .... Mrs D Kettlewell 96
8 (15) 20520-4 PUSEY STREET BOY 16 (D,F,G,S) (C Marks) J Bosley 8-9-11 .... Mrs S Bosley 93
9 (4) 05000-5 LOUISVILLE BELLE 14 (D,G) (Mrs M Pearson) M Usher 6-9-5 .... Mrs A Usher 93
10 (3) 6-00055 WADERS DREAM 79 (B,F) (R Berenson) Pat Mitchell 6-9-4 .... Miss Diana Jones 82
11 (13) 0/15100 BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 10 (C,G) W Musson 6-9-4 .... Miss E J Jones 90
12 (7) 00-0600 IT'S SO EASY 9 (D,G,S) (B O Racing Ltd) A James 4-9-1 .... Miss C Hyde 95
13 (2) 000500- TOP TYCOON 168 (Miss J Self) J Bridger 4-9-0 .... Miss J L Smith (4) 97
14 (16) 1-500 TIDDY OGGIE 26 (CD,G) (P Jacobs) N Graham 4-9-0 .... Mrs L Pearce –
15 (6) 40050-0 BREEZED WELL 19 (D,F,G) (Mrs H Noonan) B Cambidge 9-9-0 .... Mrs H Noonan 88
16 (14) 6-13240 LIFT BOY 19 (F,G) (A Moore) A Moore 6-9-0 .... Mrs J Moore (4) 90

Long handicap: Tiddy Oggie 8-13, Breezed Well 8-12, Lift Boy 8-11.

BETTING: 5-1 Pusey Street Boy, 7-1 Helios, Broughtons Turmoil, 8-1 Moon Strike, Ben Gunn, 10-1 Robellion, 12-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

HELIOS beat Dowsong 2l in 14-runner handicap over course and distance (7f, good to soft) on penultimate start. KNOBBLEENEEZE 2l 4th of 20 to Star Manager in handicap at Newbury (1m, good) on penultimate start. MOON STRIKE beat Mad Welcome ½l in 11-runner handicap here (AW, 7f) on penultimate start.
BEN GUNN completed double on penultimate start, beat Shining Example 1¼l in 17-runner maiden auction at Leicester (6f, good to soft). PUSEY STREET BOY 6¾l 4th of 20 to Davalib in handicap at Warwick (7f, good to firm). BROUGHTON'S TURMOIL 7l 14th of 25 to Deevee in handicap at Ascot (1m, good to firm) with KNOBBLEENEEZE (2lb worse off) 12l 24th. LIFT BOY best effort this season when short-head 2nd of 7 to Tyrian Purple in claimer here (AW, 6f).
Selection: HELIOS

4.30 A A APPOINTMENTS HANDICAP (£4,378: 6f) (13 runners)

1 (4) 00260-0 DEEPLY VALE 36 (S) (K Higson) G L Moore 4-10-0 .... B Rouse 93
2 (11) 30001-6 EFRA 17 (D,F,S) (Mrs P Jubert) R Hannon 6-9-11 .... Mark Denaro (7) 89
3 (7) 00/4-003 ANZIO 18 (R Gray) B Pearce 4-9-6 .... M Hills 87
4 (5) 415200 INVOCATION 7 (CD,F,G) (R Kiernan) A Moore 8-9-3 .... A Whelan (5) 96
5 (13) 423426 CRYSTAL HEIGHTS 19 (CD,G) (J Joseph) R O'Sullivan 7-9-3 .... M Rimmer 90
6 (8) 1630-02 LA PETITE FUSEE 25 (CD,G,S) (Skampcargo Racing) R O'Sullivan 4-9-3 A Clark 94
7 (9) 50-1402 ANOTHER JADE 19 (D,G,S) (Mrs A Jarvis) A Jarvis 5-9-1 .... T Quinn ◉
8 (12) 41420-0 RISKIE THINGS 102 (CD,F,G) (T Pasquale) J Moore 4-8-12 .... N Adams 90
9 (1) 2202-40 MOUJEEB 7 (V,CD,G) (Mrs C Guignard) Pat Mitchell 5-8-12 .... L Dettori 93
10 (10) 5000-30 PADDY'S RICE 17 (D,F) (Mrs R Wellman) L Holt 4-8-1 .... D Harrison 90
11 (2) 006- PRIDE OF HAYLING 228 (B Broomfield) P Hedger 4-7-13 .... C Avery –
12 (3) 500-050 BRIGHT PARAGON 19 (C,D,F,G,S) (D Cooper) H Collingridge 6-7-11 .. N Carlisle 98
13 (6) 00500-0 SHADES OF JADE 11 (C,F,S) (W Wood) J Bridger 7-7-7 .... Iona Wands (7) 87

Long handicap: Shades Of Jade 7-3

BETTING: 7-2 La Petite Fusee, 9-2 Efra, 7-1 Another Jade, Crystal Heights, 8-1 Moujeeb, 10-1 Anzio, 12-1 Paddy's Rice, 14-1 others

1994: LEIGH CROFTER 5-8-13 D Griffiths (9-2) P Cundell 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

EFRA beat Masnun 3l in 20-runner conditions race at Folkestone (6f, firm) on penultimate start, Oct 1994. ANZIO 6¾l 3rd of 4 to Emerging Market in conditions race at Folkestone (6f, good to firm). INVOCATION best recent effort 1¼l 2nd of 10 to Chinour in handicap at Aintree (6f, good to firm). CRYSTAL HEIGHTS 3l 2nd of 10 to Chewit in handicap here (AW, 6f) on penultimate start. LA PETITE FUSEE head 2nd of 17 to Gone Savage in handicap at Kempton (6f, good to firm) with INVOCATION (6lb better off) about 16l 13th. ANOTHER JADE 2l 2nd of 13 to Aragrove in handicap at Brighton (5f 59yd, good to firm) with BRIGHT PARAGON (3lb better off) 7¼l 9th. MOUJEEB 7½l 12th of 21 to Saseedo in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm) with INVOCATION (11lb better off) 7l 14th.
Selection: ANZIO

5.00 EUROPHARM GROUP MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: £3,969: 7f) (11 runners)

1 (5) 00 JIMBO 26 (T Long) J Jenkins 4-9-10 .... D Biggs –
2 (8) 00 AUTUMN COVER 9 (G Alexander) R Flower 3-8-12 .... J D Smith (5) –
3 (4) DECORATED HERO (H Allen) J Gosden 3-8-12 .... L Dettori –
4 (1) 0-0 EXPRESS ROUTING 42 (Persian War Partnership) R Akehurst 3-8-12 S Sanders (3) –
5 (2) 0-40 OFFICE HOURS 6 (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 3-8-12 .... T Quinn ◉
6 (3) 0-8 RODERICK HUDSON 26 (Duke of Devonshire) J Toller 3-8-12 .... W Newnes 94
7 (10) 0-0 SENAAN 12 (H Al Maktoum) T Thomson Jones 3-8-12 .... W Carson –
8 (6) 0- ZATOPEK 287 (G Howard-Spink) R Hannon 3-8-12 .... Pat Eddery 80
9 (9) 0 AMANY 22 (M Watt) G Lewis 3-8-7 .... S Whitworth –
10 (11) 0-0 BURNT SIENNA 26 (A Gomm) J Moore 3-8-7 .... D Harrison –
11 (7) FERN'S GOVERNOR (Fern Components Ltd) W Musson 3-8-7 .... G Hind –

BETTING: 6-4 Decorated Hero, 5-1 Zatopek, 6-1 Roderick Hudson, 8-1 Office Hours, 10-1 Autumn Cover, Fern's Governor, Amany, 14-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

DECORATED HERO: Second foal, half-brother to Beneficiary, multiple 6f/7f winner; dam 1m 1f winner. OFFICE HOURS about 7¼l 4th of 24 to Lyrikos in maiden at Newbury (1m, good) on penultimate start.
RODERICK HUDSON about 5¾l 6th of 12 to Allaal in maiden at Kempton (7f, good to firm) with JIMBO (2lb better off) about 17¼l 11th. SENAAN 19l 13th of 20 to Krystallos in maiden at Windsor (1m 67yd, good).
ZATOPEK 9l 9th of 13 to Muktabas in maiden at Goodwood (6f, firm). AMANY 19l 17th of 19 to Tamhib in maiden at Newbury (7f, good to firm).
Selection: OFFICE HOURS

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Walker	10	26	38.5	W Carson	16	66	24.2
A Stewart	4	15	26.7	L Dettori	65	294	22.1
H Cecil	9	34	26.5	T Quinn	74	432	17.1
W Jarvis	12	46	26.1	W Ryan	29	176	16.5
B Hanbury	7	31	22.6	Mark Denaro	4	26	15.4
J Gosden	16	75	21.3	M Hills	39	260	15.0

BATH

THUNDERER

2.10 Cap And Gown. 2.40 Sonic Mail. 3.10 Crystal Magic. 3.40 Alriffa. 4.10 John O'Dreams. 4.40 Sheltered Cove.

GOING: FIRM DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.10 CHAPEL FARM MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O fillies: £3,992: 1m 5yd) (12 runners)

1 (1) 0 BLAZING MIRACLE 26 B Millman 8-11 .... A Mackay –
2 (2) BOLD SALLY Mrs S Williams 8-11 .... J Williams –
3 (8) 0 BROCKTON LIGHT 9 M Channon 8-11 .... R Hughes 73
4 (4) 3 CAP AND GOWN 37 P Cole 8-11 .... J Carroll ◉
5 (5) FLAMMANT ROSE M Meade 8-11 .... V Slattery –
6 (3) GREAT TERN N Babbage 8-11 .... B Doyle –
7 (10) 0 INDESCENT BLUE 22 D Arbuthnot 8-11 .... R Price 75
8 (11) JALFREZI J Toller 8-11 .... J Weaver –
9 (12) 6 MAKRI 11 Mrs J Cecil 8-11 .... Paul Eddery 84
10 (7) 55 MIGHTY SQUAW 9 Miss G Kelleway 8-11 .... G Duffield 91
11 (6) 6-0 TEMPTING 15 R Hannon 8-11 .... Dane O'Neill (7) –
12 (9) 50- TREASURE KEAY 190 P Makin 8-11 .... R Perham –

Evens Cap And Gown, 4-1 Makri, 6-1 Brockton Light, 8-1 Tempting, 10-1 others.

2.40 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,246: 5f 11yd) (13)

1 (12) DANDE FLYER D Arbuthnot 8-7 .... R Price –
2 (6) CROCODILE SHOES R Hannon 8-6 .... B Thomson –
3 (2) MIDNIGHT COOKIE B Hodges 8-6 .... S Drowne (5) –
4 (7) 52 SONIC MAIL 17 K McAuliffe 8-6 .... R Cochrane ◉
5 (11) 062 EIGHTS HIGH 11 R Hannon 8-5 .... Dane O'Neill (7) 92
6 (13) POLISH BEAR B Meehan 8-3 .... B Doyle –
7 (3) IVORY'S GRAB HIRE K Ivory 8-2 .... G Duffield –
8 (5) MEMBERS WELCOME P Murphy 8-2 .... J Carroll –
9 (8) 3 CORNICHE QUEST 8 M Channon 8-0 .... Paul Eddery 81
10 (4) NINA FROM PASADENA C James 7-12 .... Dale Gibson –
11 (1) CROESO CYNNES B Palling 7-11 .... T Sprake –
12 (10) 3 LUCKY REVENGE 11 M Meade 7-11 .... C Tinel (7) 79
13 (9) 0 MASBRO BIRD 16 B Millman 7-11 .... A Mackay 80

5-2 Sonic Mail, 5-1 Corniche Quest, Eights High, Crocodile Shoes, 7-1 others.

3.10 RADSTOCK CONDITIONS STAKES
(£5,662: 5f 11yd) (3)

1 (2) 2-51 LUCKY PARKES 11 (CD,F,G,S) J Berry 5-9-9 .. J Carroll ◉
2 (3) 0-52 CRYSTAL MAGIC 11 (D,F) R Hannon 4-9-1 .... Dane O'Neill (7) 97
3 (1) 0-04 TART AND A HALF 4 (D,F) B Meehan 3-8-5 .. B Doyle 90

4-6 Lucky Parkes, 7-4 Crystal Magic, 6-1 Tart And A Half.

3.40 SOMERSET CONDITIONS STAKES
(£5,272: 1m 3f 144yd) (4)

1 (1) 10-5 ENGLISH INVADER 5 (S) R Akehurst 4-9-6 .. B Thomson 82
2 (3) 6-45 ALRIFFA 8 (F,S) R Hannon 4-9-2 .... R Hughes ◉
3 (2) CLASSICAL STAR 609J R Hodges 6-8-10 .... Amanda Sanders (7) –
4 (4) 644- SPOT PRIZE 214 (BF,G) I Balding 4-8-7 .. R Cochrane 98

1-2 Alriffa, 2-1 Spot Prize, 8-1 English Invader, 50-1 Classical Star

4.10 ROMAN CITY HANDICAP
(£5,881: 5f 11yd) (15)

1 (13) 1-00 HOW'S YER FATHER 14 (D,F,G,S) R Hodges 9-9-10 .... S Drowne (5) 96
2 (11) 12-2 SWEET MAGIC 15 (D,G) L Holt 4-9-3 .... M Perrett 96
3 (7) 4-00 ANN'S PEARL 22 (D,S) J Hills 4-9-1 .... B Thomson –
4 (12) -063 KILDEE LAD 15 (C,D,F,G) A Jones 5-9-0 .... B Doyle 96
5 (15) 0-30 NAPOLEON STAR 5 (CD,BF,F) M Saunders 4-8-12 R Price 92
6 (1) 2211 NORDICO PRINCESS 36 (D,F,G,S) M Brittain 4-8-11 .... R Cochrane 90
7 (9) 0002 EAGLE DAY 2 (B) D Elsworth 4-8-10 .... J Williams ◉
8 (2) 0360 DOMICKSKY 17 (D,F,G,S) M Channon 7-8-5 Paul Eddery 97
9 (8) 00-3 WINSOME WOOSTER 11 (C,D,G,S) P Murphy 4-8-5 .... J Carroll 94
10 (6) 000- SEASIDE MINSTREL 210 (C,D,F,G,S) D Williams 7-7-13 .... A Mackay 90
11 (14) -545 RANDOM 19 (CD,G) C James 4-7-12 .... Dale Gibson 92
12 (10) 05-0 PALEY PRINCE 11 (CD,F) M Usher 9-7-9 C Adamson (7) 95
13 (3) 00-0 MIRIAM 11 (D,F) M F-Godley 4-7-9 .... Martin Dwyer (7) 88
14 (5) -000 LA BELLE DOMINIQUE 11 S Knight 3-7-7 .. S Lanigan (7) 79
15 (4) 0-00 JOHN O'DREAMS 11 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs A King 10-7-7 .... N Varley (5) 89

4-1 Eagle Day, 9-2 Sweet Magic, 6-1 Winsome Wooster, Nordico Princess, 7-1 Domicksky, 10-1 Kildee Lad, 12-1 others.

4.40 BATH FESTIVAL HANDICAP
(£3,422: 2m 1f 34yd) (20)

1 (3) 0002 BRANDON PRINCE 12 (F,G,S) I Balding 7-10-0 .... R Cochrane 92
2 (4) /41- NORNAX LAD 462 (F,G) M Meade 7-9-10 .... V Slattery –
3 (7) 02-5 TARTHOOTH 22 (C,F,G) C Benstead 4-9-7 .... J Williams 91
4 (16) 0-60 WANNAPLANTATREE 42 G Yardley 4-9-4 D Griffiths (5) 98
5 (6) 45-2 INCHCAILLOCH 15 (F,S) J King 6-9-0 .... Paul Eddery 94
6 (17) 6254 REGAL PURSUIT 72 (B) C Horgan 4-8-13 .. Dale Gibson 93
7 (10) 30-0 ART DECO LADY 26J N Babbage 4-8-10 .... B Doyle 92
8 (8) D00- RUMPUS 40J Mrs L Murphy 5-8-10 .... S Drowne (5) 80
9 (20) 56/ FRENCH IVY 378J (D,F,G) F Murphy 8-8-10 .. M Perrett –
10 (9) 215- SARAZAR 277 (CD,F) R Akehurst 6-8-9 .... B Thomson 89
11 (5) 00-0 COLERIDGE 15 (B,F,G) J Sheehan 7-8-9 .... R Price 87
12 (12) 2000 SHELTERED COVE 15 (CD,F,G) K C-Brown 4-8-6 .... J Weaver 97
13 (19) 0-46 SUPER ASSIGNATION 100 Miss G Kelleway 4-8-1 .... G Duffield ◉
14 (18) -125 SOOJAMA 11 (F) R Flower 5-7-11 .... F Norton 88
15 (13) 1-34 BY ARRANGEMENT 18 (BF,F,G,S) S Woodman 6-7-10 .... A Mackay 93
16 (15) 0080 SECRET ASSIGNMENT 18 R Curtis 5-7-8 .. D Wright (3) 88
17 (1) 0-10 FLASHMAN 17J (B) B Llewellyn 5-7-7 .... T Williams 96
18 (14) 00-0 PRINCESSE ABIGAIL 9 R Flower 4-7-7 .... S Lanigan (7) –
19 (11) 050- A SUITABLE GIRL 18J D Williams 4-7-7 .... N Varley (5) –
20 (2) 00-0 LAJADHAL 26 K Bishop 6-7-7 .... B Halligan (7) –

9-2 Sarazar, 5-1 Inchcailloch, 6-1 Brandon Prince, 8-1 Regal Pursuit, 10-1 Tarthooth, By Arrangement, 12-1 Soojama, 14-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J King, 5 winners from 18 runners, 27.8%; J Berry, 10 from 45, 22.2%; D Arbuthnot, 6 from 29, 20.7%; D Elsworth, 8 from 40, 20.0%; R Akehurst, 7 from 41, 17.1%; I Balding, 14 from 91, 15.4%.
JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 3 winners from 13 rides, 23.1%; B Doyle, 6 from 31, 19.4%; J Carroll, 5 from 27, 18.5%; Paul Eddery, 12 from 73, 16.4%; R Cochrane, 11 from 71, 15.5%; S Drowne, 8 from 60, 13.3%.

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

6.20 Toll Booth. 6.50 Forward Glen. 7.20 Brackenfield. 7.50 Aljadeer. 8.20 Strong Approach. 8.50 New Inn.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

6.20 McEWANS BEST SCOTCH CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,917: 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

1 53R1 FAMILIAR ART 12 (D,G,S) G Moore 4-11-10 .... N Stocks (5)
2 0250 JUDGE AND JURY 17 (B,D,G,S) L Lungo 6-11-8 .. I Jardine (7)
3 -4U0 JOHN SHAW 7 (D,BF,F,G) J Eyre 7-11-8 .... E Callaghan
4 0618 ICANSPELL 12 (B,G) W Storey 4-11-4 .... J Supple
5 P431 TOLL BOOTH 53 (C,F) J Hope 6-11-1 .... B Harding
6 1350 PALM HOUSE 15 (D,F,G,S) J Hellens 10-10-11 .... A Lamach
7 3043 CAMPTOSAURUS 8 J Johnson 6-10-10 .... D J Moffatt
8 0012 CLASSIC EXHIBIT 14 (D,BF,F,G) A Forbes 6-10-8 .... T Eley
9 0542 ROBINS PRIDE 7 N Tinkler 5-10-7 .... E Husband
10 -032 SET-EM-ALIGHT 148 Mrs M Reveley 5-10-0 .... G Lee
11 0-P0 BASSIO 7 R Cockburn 6-10-0 .... M Molloy (5)
12 P-00 STYLISH GENT 31 (D,F,G) G Oldroyd 8-10-0 .... P Midgley
13 PPFU ROMAN SWORD 26 S Leadbetter 7-10-0 .... G Cahill (5)

7-2 Set-Em-Alight, 4-1 Familiar Art, 6-1 Classic Exhibit, 8-1 Judge And Jury, Icanspell, Camptosaurus, 10-1 others.

6.50 NEWCASTLE BROWN ALE NOVICES CHASE
(£2,814: 2m 4f) (12)

1 2213 FORWARD GLEN 16 (B,F) P Cheesbrough 8-11-9 A Thornton
2 20-4 ANOTHER NICK 15 (F) J Hubbuck 9-11-3 .... B Storey
3 6-PU ARTHUR TOWLER 12 J Johnson 6-11-3 .... J F Titley
4 /P-0 CHARTER FAIR 6 V Thompson 11-11-3 .... K Jones
5 31P6 GEORGIE 3 (F) M W Easterby 7-11-3 .... L Wyer
6 45-P SHAWWELL 21 (F,G) J Charlton 8-11-3 .... K Johnson
7 P60F THE ENERGISER 8 D Lamb 9-11-3 .... Mr A Manners (7)
8 3P5P WHINSTONE MILL 7P (G) R Brewis 7-11-3 .... G Harker
9 P005 JUST MOLLY 11 W Reed 8-10-12 .... Richard Guest
10 P104 PANTO LADY 14P (F) Mrs K Lamb 9-10-12 .. Miss S Lamb (7)
11 0585 BARTON ROYAL 7 (B,G) J Birkett 5-10-10 .... L O'Hara
12 0P40 NUWAY 11 M Barnes 5-10-10 .... P Waggott

7-4 Forward Glen, 4-1 Georgie, 5-1 Shawwell, 8-1 Arthur Towler, 10-1 Whinstone Mill, 12-1 Another Nick, 14-1 Barton Royal, 16-1 others

7.20 WILKINSON MAUGHAN SOLICITORS HANDICAP CHASE (£4,492: 3m) (6)

1 -125 BRACKENFIELD 49 (D,BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-10 .... P Niven
2 6241 SILVER STICK 26 (B,C,D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 8-11-7 R Garritty
3 2612 VELEDA II 15 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Bramall 8-11-4 Mr D Parker (3)
4 0452 STRONG SOUND 26 (F,G,S) P Cheesbrough 8-10-6 .... Richard Guest
5 -332 WAIT YOU THERE 30 (C,F,G,S) H Alexander 10-10-6 G Cahill (7)
6 3225 TIMANFAYA 23 (F,G) W Reed 8-10-0 .... B Storey

7-4 Brackenfield, 11-4 Silver Stick, 7-2 Veleda II, 4-1 Strong Sound, 14-1 Wait You There, 25-1 Timanfaya.

7.50 NEWCASTLE BREWERIES TOP OF THE NORTH NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE FINAL
(£4,765: 2m 4f) (9)

1 0-11 ALJADEER 3 (B,D,F) M W Easterby 6-12-5 (5ex) E Callaghan (7)
2 2221 JALCANTO 54 (C,F) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-11 .... P Niven
3 4242 OLD HABITS 32 J Eyre 6-10-6 .... J Supple (3)
4 5432 BLACK MAGIC WOMAN 12 J Hellens 7-10-4 .. A Lamach (3)
5 4134 PEPITIST 32 (D,G) M Hammond 4-10-2 .... Mr C Bonner (5)
6 1221 KEEP BATTLING 3F (D,G) J Goldie 5-10-0 .... F Perratt (3)
7 2346 MISTER MUDDYPAWS 16 J Johnson 5-10-0 .... J F Titley
8 300P TICO GOLD 16 P Cheesbrough 7-10-0 .... A Thornton
9 2664 JIM'S WISH 14 (B) T Cuthbert 7-10-0 .... Carol Cuthbert

5-2 Aljadeer, 3-1 Jalcanto, 9-2 Old Habits, 7-1 Keep Battling, 8-1 Black Magic Woman, Pepitist, 10-1 Mister Muddypaws, 16-1 others

8.20 CIU CONVALESCENT HOMES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,684: 2m 4f) (6)

1 P440 STRONG APPROACH 28 (CD,G,S) J Charlton 10-11-10 .... K Johnson
2 2112 MILS MIJ 11 (F,G,S) T Cuthbert 10-11-6 .... P Niven
3 -PP0 BALLINROSTIG 28 (C,F,G) B Wilkinson 12-11-0 .... N Smith
4 -121 VICARIDGE 15 (CD,F,G) R Brewis 8-10-11 .... G Harker
5 5-04 LAURIE-O 50 (D,F,G,S) D Lamb 11-10-4 .. Mr A Manners (7)
6 2144 INTEGRITY BOY 26 (B,D,BF,F,G,S) N Tinkler 8-10-2 .. L Wyer

6-4 Vicaridge, 7-4 Mils Mij, 7-2 Strong Approach, 6-1 Integrity Boy, 25-1 Ballinrostig, Laurie-O

8.50 NEWCASTLE EXHIBITION MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,292: 2m 110yd) (17)

1 P-PP BIT OF LIGHT 7 D Lamb 6-11-3 .... Mr A Manners (7)
2 CHARLIE LOVE 1062F W Storey 6-11-3 .... J Supple (3)
3 PP30 HEDDON HAUGH 17 P Cheesbrough 7-11-3 .... A Thornton
4 0P MINI CRUISE 39 J Johnson 5-11-3 .... J F Titley
5 0 NANCYS CHOICE 14 J Hope 5-11-3 .... B Harding (5)
6 00P PHILEAS FOGG 12 J Hellens 6-11-3 .... A Lamach (3)
7 6-52 SHARP SENSATION 11 W Barker 5-11-3 .... G Harker
8 04F- SPIDERS DELIGHT 382 T Cuthbert 7-11-3 .... K Johnson
9 PP- ULTRAKAY 330F (V) J Haynes 5-11-3 .... M Molloy (7)
10 USP CINDER MHOR 178 M Barnes 6-10-12 .... N Leach
11 NEW INN 11F E Weymes 4-10-12 .... D Bentley
12 000- SIMONE STAR 376 J Parkes 6-10-12 .... R McCarthy (7)
13 STAMSHAW 324F B Ellison 6-10-12 .... J Callaghan
14 0204 VALISKY 12 R Allan 5-10-12 .... S Melrose (7)
15 WHITER MORN B Mactaggart 5-10-12 .... B Storey
16 040U PORTAMENTO 26 J Turner 4-10-7 .... W Fry (5)
17 4600 RAMBOLLINA 24 M W Easterby 4-10-7 .... R Garritty

7-4 New Inn, 3-1 Sharp Sensation, 6-1 Valisky, 7-1 Heddon Haugh, 8-1 Rambollina, 10-1 Spiders Delight, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M W Easterby, 10 winners from 38 runners, 26.3%; Mrs M Reveley, 25 from 105, 23.8%; P Cheesbrough, 10 from 43, 23.3%; G M Moore, 13 from 69, 18.8%; N Tinkler, 5 from 29, 17.2%; B Wilkinson, 5 from 31, 16.1%.
JOCKEYS: P Niven, 29 winners from 139 rides, 20.9%; L Wyer, 16 from 92, 17.4%; R Garritty, 7 from 48, 14.6%; Richard Guest, 3 from 21, 14.3%; A Thornton, 3 from 25, 12.0%; D J Moffatt, 4 from 37, 10.8%.

هكذا من الأصل

مصـور من الاصل

Coutts sails within reach of magical achievement

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

RUSSELL COUTTS and his Team New Zealand crew have only to win their race today against Dennis Conner aboard *Young America* and they have their hands on the America's Cup. Short of another last-minute change of rules, there does not appear to be much that Conner can do to change the tide of history.

To Conner and his dejected crew, a fifth successive defeat in the best-of-nine races final has become a foregone conclusion, especially after the 3min 37sec bruising they received on Thursday when Coutts and his yacht, *Black Magic*, sailed straight through their cover to chalk up their fourth win.

"I have never been in a race where I felt I had so little control over the outcome — and I've been in some uphill battles in my life." Paul Cayard, the helmsman on *Young America*, admitted. "You are witnessing the best performance by a challenger in recent history."

In fact, this New Zealand rout is the best by any challenger since the schooner, *America*, first won this Garrard-fashioned silver ewer in a race around the Isle of Wight in 1851. Even when Dennis Conner beat Iain Murray's *Kookaburra* 4-0 to win back the Cup from Australia in 1987, the margins of victory were nothing like as wide as this.

"We never guessed there would be this kind of discrepancy." Tom Whidden, Conner's tactician, said after losing the fourth race. "We never imagined the entire defence programme was so far off pace. I'm pretty surprised."

Whidden conceded there was nothing that Conner's crew could do to upgrade its borrowed boat in time to prevent a New Zealand victory.

"They were focused when they arrived here last November and they have stayed at it. It's a great two-boat effort. Their edge comes from a whole bunch of things from the hull to how it relates to the aerodynamics of the rig and sails. The crew has done a good job, too.

"We knew that we were in trouble coming into this series and hoped that the switch from our own yacht, *Stars & Stripes*, to *Young America* would put us in the ball game. The margins would have been scary in the other boat."

The race on Thursday was settled within 15 minutes. *Young America* had established a two-boat lead soon after the start but then the wind shifted, as Coutts and his crew had expected, and within eight minutes they were eight lengths ahead.

From that point on, the New Zealanders drew further and further ahead, extending their lead from 1min 19sec at the weather mark to 1:58 at the leeward turn.

Should *Black Magic* complete the rout today, New Zealand will become only the third nation in the 144-year history of the event to hold the America's Cup.



GARY CASKEY

Cayard, the *Young America* helmsman, cannot summon the guile to master *Black Magic* in the fourth race.

WORCESTER

THUNDERER

1.45 How's It Goin. 2.15 Kenmore-Speed. 2.45 Reve En Rose. 3.15 Ask The Governor. 3.45 Henry Cone. 4.15 Smith Too. 4.45 Coole Hill.

GOING: GOOD — SIS

1.45 HIMBLETON JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,408: 2m) (15 runners)

101 3011 HOW'S IT GOIN 11 (D,F) W Muir 12-0 — S McNeill
102 1 WALKING TALL 5 (D,F) T McGovern 11-7 — A P McCoy
103 5105 KARLINE KA 14 (D,S) R Dickin 11-2 — D Meredith (3)
104 DELMOUR 66F W Brisbourne 11-0 — T Wall
105 05 DUBAI FALCON 7 R Dickin 11-0 — R Bellamy
106 PP00 REGAL RAMBLER 8 (B) L Barratt 11-0 — S Wynne
107 5 SCHNOZZLE 52 K Bailey 11-0 — N Williamson
108 P2 SMART FAMILY 15 M Pipe 11-0 — R Dunwoody
109 SPRING LOADED 87F J O'Shea 11-0 — M A Fitzgerald
110 0P GWERNYMYNYDD 32 F Jordan 10-9 — J Lodder
111 002F LORCANJO 26 D Carey 10-9 — R Davis
112 PB2P MARROWFAT LADY 7 Mrs P Dutfield 10-9 — P Holley
113 00 MUSICAL VENTURE 38 K Morgan 10-9 — A S Smith
114 P2 SHUTTLINGSLOW 14 N Gaselee 10-9 — C Llewellyn
115 000 SOTTISES 5F P Dalton 10-9 — T Eley (3)

3-1 Karline Ka, 7-2 Smart Family, 4-1 How's It Goin, 5-1 Schnozzle, 8-1 others.

2.15 RHYDD NOVICES CHASE (£3,088: 2m 4f 110yd) (11)

201 0441 BUTLER JOHN 10 (D,F,G) J Edwards 6-11-10 — N Williamson
202 502P BRIGHT SEASON 26 J Poulton 7-11-3 — A Thornton
203 /P5 FAMBRIDGE 40 M Tompkins 6-11-3 — D Gallagher
204 PPU FATHERS FOOTPRINTS 10 J Bradley 7-11-3 — R Farrant
205 1-U0 KENMORE-SPEED 14 (BF,F,S) Mrs Smith 8-11-3 Richard Guest
206 -032 KING'S SHILLING 21 (F,G,S) H Oliver 8-11-3 — R Davis
207 55F4 ROYAL SEGOS 10 Mrs P Dutfield 8-11-3 — P Holley
208 4-44 SPARKLING SUNSET 147 (S) N Henderson 7-11-3 — M A Fitzgerald
209 3/P DARING TROUBLE 21 R Stronge 6-10-12 — I Lawrence
210 /035 SOME DREAM 13P (F) R Alner 11-10-12 — P Carey (7)
211 P-P0 SWEET FRIENDSHIP 30 Mrs L Jewell 7-10-12 — A Bates (5)

5-2 King's Shilling, 3-1 Butler John, 7-2 Kenmore-Speed, 5-1 others.

2.45 HORSERACE BETTING LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,548: 2m) (15)

301 111- SAAHI 17F (G,S) C Weedon 6-12-0 — J Osborne
302 1113 PINECONE PETER 7 (V,D,F,G,S) O Brennan 8-11-10 M Brennan
303 PFP4 HERE HE COMES 8 (D,G,S) R Stronge 9-11-10 — I Lawrence
304 F5P0 ELEGANT FRIEND 24 (D,G,S) M Tompkins 7-11-5 D Gallagher
305 46P6 EL GRANDO 11 (S) K Cunningham-Brown 5-10-10 A P McCoy
306 P642 DRESS DANCE 17 N Mitchell 5-10-10 — Sophie Mitchell (7)
307 0000 WORLD WITHOUT END 14 (C,S) W Clay 6-10-8 — Diane Clay
308 R035 STEVE FORD 7 C Nash 6-10-7 — J R Kavanagh
309 4212 REVE EN ROSE 8 (BF,D,F,G) M McMillan 9-10-4 N Williamson
310 0105 WAMDHA 148 (D,G,S) K Morgan 5-10-3 — A S Smith
311 -F0B LA RAPTOTTE 8 (CD,F,G) K Bridgwater 8-10-0 — D Bridgwater
312 1 SPRINGFIELD DANCER 17 (S) P Hobbs 4-10-0 — Peter Hobbs
313 5554 STATELY HOME 10 Mrs P Dutfield 4-10-0 — P Holley
314 2200 CYRILL HENRY 14 (F,G) P Winkworth 6-10-0 — C Maude
315 P-PP DISTANT MILL 138 R Dickin 7-10-0 — D Meredith (3)

4-1 Springfield Dancer, 5-1 Reve En Rose, 6-1 Here He Comes, 7-1 others.

3.15 MADRESFIELD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£4,068: 2m 7f) (14)

401 565- FIGHT TO WIN 376 (F,G) C Broad 7-11-10 — G Hogan
402 1P40 ASK THE GOVERNOR 17 (F,G,S) G Balding 9-11-6 A P McCoy
403 0442 BEACH BUM 15 (G) Mrs J Young 9-11-6 — S Curran
404 031- JIMMY O'DEA 384 (F) T Etti 8-11-5 — Guy Lewis
405 45UU SUPPOSIN 26 (G,S) Mrs S Smith 7-11-3 — R Wilkinson
406 0631 TURPIN'S GREEN 26 (F,G) J King 12-11-2 — G Tormey
407 346F SILLIAN 8 (F,G,S) Mrs A Hewitt 13-11-1 — S Wynne
408 P345 WILLOW GALE 40 (B,G) P Butler 8-11-0 — F Leahy
409 /S-0 FIBREGUIDE TECH 14 (F,G) T Kinsey 12-10-12 — S Lyons
410 4323 NEW HALEN 28 (BF,C,F,G,S) A James 14-10-11 P McLoughlin
411 4453 MISS FERN 26 (F,G,S) R Dickin 10-10-8 — D Meredith
412 2134 THE HUMBLE TILLER 15 (F,G,S) D Gandolfo 12-10-5 — Sophie Mitchell
413 4521 SAINTE MARTINE 5 (F) B Millman 8-10-0 (6ex) — D Salter
414 -6PP ROSCOE'S GEMMA 31 N Tinkler 11-10-0 — Philip Hughes (5)

4-1 Ask The Governor, 5-1 Turpin's Green, 6-1 Beach Bum, 7-1 others.

3.45 BLAKEDOWN HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,134: 3m) (17)

501 PP62 ZAMIRAH 10 (F,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 6-12-0 — C Llewellyn
502 1242 LINTON ROCKS 11 (F,G,S) T T Jones 6-11-13 — M A Fitzgerald
503 43F5 NIRVANA PRINCE 94F (F,S) B Preece 6-11-10 — T Wall
504 -112 VIOLET'S BOY 17 (BF,G,S) P Hobbs 8-11-0 — Peter Hobbs
505 0014 RIMOUSKI 11 (D,G) B Cambidge 7-10-12 — Mr J Cambidge
506 4F00 DIVINE CHANCE 36 (S) N Gaselee 7-10-11 — J Osborne
507 2312 FORTUNES COURSE 21 (D,G,S) J King 6-10-11 — G Upton
508 544F ULURU 21 (CD,F,G) C Nash 7-10-10 — J R Kavanagh
509 -161 SIMPLY 18F (F,S) T McGovern 6-10-9 — D Bridgwater
510 50P2 KNOCKAVERRY 25 (D,G,S) M Wilkinson 7-10-8 — R Supple
511 1051 KNIGHTS 19 (D,F,G) H Oliver 9-10-4 — Jacqui Oliver
512 4403 CRANE HILL 14 P Hobbs 5-10-3 — C Maude
513 0202 WARFIELD 59 (S) P Nicholls 8-10-1 — R Dunwoody
514 6P42 WASHINGTON HEIGHTS 5 (B,D,F,G) C Mann 6-10-1 — N Williamson
515 5P51 HENRY CONE 14 (CD,G) D Nicholson 6-10-0 — W Marston
516 /P0 FORGET THE REST 21 (D,G,S) J Smith 10-10-0 — A S Smith
517 5033 SIR CRUSTY 15 (C,D,F,G,S) D O'Neill 13-10-0 P Maddock (7)

9-2 Henry Cone, 11-2 Simply, 6-1 Violet's Boy, 7-1 Linton Rocks, 8-1 others.

4.15 RAMSDEN NOVICES CHASE (£3,225: 2m 7f) (14)

601 026F TOUCH OF WINTER 5 (BF,CD,G) K Bailey 9-12-0 N Williamson
602 2126 MONKSFORT 135 (BF,F) N Henderson 9-11-8 — M A Fitzgerald
603 -F14 SMITH TOO 22 (BF,F,S) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-8 — W Marston
604 FF4U WAR COUNSEL 21 (S) Mrs D Haine 7-11-8 — D Bridgwater
605 -060 CAPTAIN CAVEMAN 22 (B) Mrs A Hewitt 10-11-2 — S Wynne
606 RF02 FATHER POWER 8 P Hobbs 7-11-2 — Peter Hobbs
607 F422 GENERAL RUSTY 11 (G) C Mann 7-11-2 — R Dunwoody
608 PP5F MR WENDYL 31 C Trietline 7-11-2 — L Harvey
609 P8PP MURPHY STREET 8 Mrs A Barclay 9-11-2 — Mr S Joynes (7)
610 P-3P QUEEN'S AWARD 105 R Champion 6-11-2 — B Powell
611 -503 RELTIC 74 (G) C Broad 6-11-2 — C Llewellyn
612 PF SCRATCH PLAYER 10 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 8-11-2 — A Tory
613 010F THE HATCHER 21 (G) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-11-2 — R Greene
614 4P-P HI DUCHESS 8 G Ham 8-10-11 — R Farrant

7-2 Smith Too, 4-1 General Rusty, 5-1 Monksfort, 6-1 Father Power, 8-1 others.

4.45 GALLOWS GREEN MARES ONLY NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,968: 2m) (22)

1 BLUEDOLLY D Jones 5-11-0 — G Tormey (5)
2 020 BODFARI PRODUCER 35 J Edwards 5-11-0 — Mr M Daly (7)
3 BUSINESS IS ROSIE L Grassick 5-11-0 — Mr J Grassick
4 DARK ROMANCE C Allen 6-11-0 — F Leahy (3)
5 36 HALONA 42 S Christian 5-11-0 — Mr M Rimell (5)
6 HENRIETTA HOWARD Mrs D Haine 5-11-0 — G Hogan (5)
7 0 LAKOTA 31 R Dickin 5-11-0 — Miss S Duckett (7)
8 5 PARSONS KNOCK 38 R Rowe 5-11-0 — D Carson (7)
9 PO CAP EEL T Kinsey 5-11-0 — S Righton (7)
10 PRICKLY PATH R Pocock 5-11-0 — P McLoughlin (3)
11 SUPER SAFFRON B Smart 5-11-0 — S Lyons (3)
12 VISION OF LIGHT H Oliver 5-11-0 — Philip Hughes (7)
13 30 VOOLINO 81 Mrs J Renfree-Barons 5-11-0 — Mr M Armytage
14 WAR HEROINE C Nash 5-11-0 — Pat Thompson (7)
15 ANDY COIN W Brisbourne 4-10-9 — S Wynne
16 BEAU BO'S RETURN Miss H Knight 4-10-9 — Miss J Brackenbury (7)
17 COOLE HILL D Nicholson 4-10-9 — R Massey (5)
18 0 COUNTRY PURSUITS 31 C Jones 4-10-9 — D Meredith (3)
19 6 DARLING MADELINE 17 M Pipe 4-10-9 — D Burrows (7)
20 DIAMOND TIME T Foster 4-10-9 — A P McCoy
21 ETON MANOR T Thomson Jones 4-10-9 — A Bates (5)
22 0 JUST FROLIC 64 C Jones 4-10-9 — S Curran (3)

4-1 Coole Hill, 6-1 Diamond Time, Parsons Knock, 7-1 Halona, 8-1 others.

BEVERLEY

THUNDERER

2.20 Absolute Folly. 2.50 Three Arch Bridge. 3.20 Western General. 3.50 Warning Order. 4.20 Meeting Point. 4.50 Hazard A Guess.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.50 PRUSSIAN BLUE (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS

DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.20 KIPLINGCOTE SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,903: 1m 1f 207yd) (10 runners)

1 0-04 GENTLE IRONY 16 (S) P Makin 9-2 — K Darley 2
2 3-01 ABSOLUTE FOLLY 9 (G) J Berry 9-0 — G Carter 10
3 1402 HIGH FLOWN 12 (G) R Thompson 9-0 — M Birch 3
4 6-04 UPEX LE GOLD TOO 3 Mrs A Swinbank 9-0 — S Maloney 5
5 6 ANCHOR CROWN 9 K Wingrove 8-9 — D R McCabe (3) 9
6 CHARM DANCER J Wharton 8-9 — J Quinn 4
7 00-0 CORINA'S GLOW 37 Miss J Craze 8-9 — S Webster 6
8 6 CULLIN CAPER 16 T Watson 8-9 — Dean McKeown 8
9 000- OUR RAINBOW 276 Mrs S Austin 8-9 — J Marshall 7
10 4551 RISKY ROSE 12 (F) R Hollinshead 8-9 — A Culhane 1

5-2 Absolute Folly, 7-2 Risky Rose, 4-1 High Flown, 7-1 Gentle Irony, 8-1 others.

2.50 HYPAC HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £4,432: 7f 100yd) (12)

1 660- RUSHEN RAIDER 257 K Hogg 9-7 — A Daly (7) 5
2 320- KHAN 306 C Thornton 9-6 — Dean McKeown 11
3 1023 THREE ARCH BRIDGE 2 (B,D,F,G) M Johnston 9-3 D Holland 8
4 -320 GREY AGAIN 21 (B,D,G) S Bowring 9-1 — C Teague (5) 9
5 20-0 PEMLEY 17 R Whitaker 9-1 — A Culhane 1
6 0403 PC'S CRUISER 17 (B,G) M Chapman 9-1 — C Munday (7) 10
7 000- BORROWBY 193 (B) M W Easterby 8-11 — L Charnock 6
8 00-0 STUDIO THIRTY 28 R Hollinshead 8-9 — G Carter 2
9 630- TABARD GARDEN 183 D Nicholls 8-7 — Alex Greaves 3
10 3-06 EURO SCEPTIC 17 (B) M H Easterby 8-2 — S Maloney 7
11 0460 FAIRY'S SON 56 D Nicholls 7-13 — J Quinn 12
12 0000 MALZOOM 3 S Kettlewell 7-8 — N Kennedy 4

5-2 Three Arch Bridge, 4-1 Grey Again, 5-1 Pc's Cruiser, 10-1 Euro Sceptic, Malzoom, 12-1 Khan, Rushen Raider, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 15 winners from 40 runners, 37.5%; J Dunlop, 9 from 31, 29.0%; J Watts, 9 from 39, 23.1%; J L Harris, 5 from 24, 20.8%; M Johnston, 13 from 69, 18.8%; C Brittain, 5 from 30, 16.7%.

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 11 winners from 56 rides, 19.6%; A McGlone, 5 from 26, 19.2%; K Darley, 41 from 236, 17.4%; Alex Greaves, 8 from 56, 14.3%; P Robinson, 8 from 61, 13.1%; G Carter, 6 from 48, 12.5%.

3.20 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE SERIES (Handicap: £4,250: 1m 100yd) (11)

1 20-1 WESTERN GENERAL 18 (D,G,S) Miss S Hall 4-10-0 — J Stack (5) 1
2 30-6 SHANGHAI VENTURE 15 (F) S Woods 4-9-11 — C Webb (7) 2
3 0R-6 PHARAZINI 7 M Camacho 4-9-2 — L Charnock 5
4 20-0 SUPERDO 7 (F,G) Mrs P Sly 9-8-11 — M Birch 4
5 2406 ORTHORHOMBUS 7 (F,G) D Cosgrove 6-8-9 — J Fortune 11
6 -114 SOUTH EASTERN FRED 14 (D,F,G) H Collingridge 4-8-8 — J Quinn 3
7 00-5 DESERT ZONE 12 (S) J L Harris 6-8-6 — P Robinson 8
8 2236 EQUERRY 9 M Johnston 4-8-6 — K Darley 9
9 -000 KEMO SABO 16 (S) Mrs J Ramsden 3-8-5 — K Fallon 7
10 0062 PINE RIDGE LAD 7 (C,F,G) J Eyre 5-8-0 — J Fanning 10
11 5010 KARINSKA 10 (D,F,G) M Chapman 5-8-0 — C Munday (7) 6

3-1 Western General, 4-1 Shanghai Venture, 5-1 Pharazini, 6-1 South Eastern Fred, 8-1 Orthorhombus, 10-1 Superoo, 12-1 Pine Ridge Lad, 14-1 others.

3.50 YORKSHIRE-TYNE TEES TELEVISION CONDITIONS STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,023: 1m 3f 216yd) (3)

1 23-3 WARNING ORDER 28 (G) J Dunlop 9-4 — K Darley 1
2 6-3 PRUSSIAN BLUE 25 H Cecil 8-12 — A McGlone 2
3 0 RAINELLE 15 C Brittain 8-7 — M Birch 3

4-5 Prussian Blue, 5-4 Warning Order, 8-1 Rainelle.

4.20 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND RIDINGS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,626: 5f) (10)

1 BOWLERS BOY J Quinn 9-0 — M Birch 6
2 ERIC'S BETT Mrs S Austin 9-0 — J Marshall 4
3 IMP EXPRESS G Moore 9-0 — M Tebbutt 8
4 NORTHERN CLAN M W Easterby 9-0 — L Charnock 5
5 PHANTOM DANCER J Berry 9-0 — G Carter 3
6 3 PRINCE ASLIA 5 M Johnston 9-0 — D Holland 9
7 PROPOLIS POWER M W Easterby 9-0 — Ruth Coulter (7) 7
8 0 WELVILLE 14 P Makin 9-0 — A McGlone 10
9 0 DIMINUET 14 J Watts 8-9 — K Fallon 2
10 2 MEETING POINT 15 Mrs M Reveley 8-9 — K Darley 1

9-4 Meeting Point, 5-2 Prince Aslia, 3-1 Phantom Dancer, 8-1 Northern Clan, Welville, 12-1 Propolis Power, 14-1 others.

4.50 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP (£4,206: 1m 1f 207yd) (7)

1 2342 SOUTHERN POWER 5 (V,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-0 K Darley 2
2 -041 HAZARD A GUESS 12 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-8 — K Fallon 6
3 20-0 DURHAM DRAPES 12 M H Easterby 4-8-10 — M Birch 7
4 /0-6 TROOPING 9 (F) M Meagher 6-8-9 — J Fortune 4
5 3050 AUGUSTAN 4 (V,D,F) S Gollings 4-8-6 — D Holland 5
6 2-33 SOBA UP 9 (D,S) T Etherington 5-7-13 — L Charnock 3
7 500- HAWKISH 193 (D,S) D Morley 6-7-9 — J Quinn 1

5-4 Hazard A Guess, 2-1 Southern Power, 7-1 Soba Up, 8-1 Durham Drapes, 14-1 Trooping, Hawkish, 16-1 Augustan.

WARWICK

THUNDERER

5.40 First Crack. 6.10 Merry Panto. 6.40 Crosula. 7.10 Channels Gate. 7.40 Mulciber. 8.10 Cool Dawn. 8.40 Exterior Profiles.

Brian Beel: 8.10 Cool Dawn.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS

5.40 CONSOLATION HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,383: 2m 4f 110yd) (5 runners)

1 3061 BEATSON 7 (D,F,S) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-10 — T Jenks
2 -P50 CARIBBEAN PRINCE 184 (B,C,F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 7-11-7 — D Gallagher
3 4212 TORDO 11 (B,D,F) C Mann 4-11-7 — R Dunwoody
4 1111 FIRST CRACK 7 (CD,F,G,S) F Jordan 10-11-7 — J Lodder
5 0603 HYDEMILLA 15 Mrs T Pitkington 5-10-0 — D Bridgwater

5-4 First Crack, 6-4 Beatson, 9-2 Tordo, 14-1 Caribbean Prince, 16-1 Hydemilla.

6.10 ROSE AND WILLIAM SUTTON NOVICES CHASE (£3,529: 2m) (5)

1 3P41 MERRY PANTO 5 (D,F) C Brooks 6-11-9 — D Gallagher
2 3046 KATIE'S JOKER 38 (BF) D O'Neill 9-11-2 — M A Fitzgerald
3 2220 LINDEN'S LOTTO 70 (G,S) J White 6-11-2 — N Williamson
4 0664 MABTHUL 5 (B,F) R Juckes 7-11-2 — J Lodder
5 0633 NUCLEAR EXPRESS 5 (BF) J Bradley 8-11-2 — R Farrant

7-4 Merry Panto, 2-1 Linden's Lotto, 3-1 Katie's Joker, 7-1 others.

6.40 CHARLECOTE NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,657: 2m 4f 110yd) (9)

1 P111 CROSULA 8 (F,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-8 — R Dunwoody
2 546 CHAPILLIERE 28 T Thomson Jones 5-11-2 — M A Fitzgerald
3 5 EZZY'S BOY 21 S Mellor 7-11-2 — M Perrett
4 4-02 GRAMSCI 28 Mrs M Jones 7-11-2 — B McCourt
5 P23P NIYAKA 128 (G) J Wilson 8-11-2 — M Hourigan
6 0-0P SOBER ISLAND 219 N Twiston-Davies 6-11-2 — C Llewellyn
7 -406 SPEARHEAD AGAIN 45 S Christian 6-11-2 — G Upton
8 -003 ELUSIVE STAR 40 J White 5-10-11 — N Williamson
9 P ASK HARRY 131 R Alner 4-10-10 — B Powell

Evens Crosula, 7-2 Gramsci, 8-1 Chapilliere, Elusive Star, 10-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Beverley: 2.50 Pc's Cruiser. 4.50 Augustan, Southern Power. Lingfield Park: 1.30 Midnight Mass. Newcastle: 8.50 Ultrakay. Wolverhampton: 7.30 Trapeze, Kristis Girl, Nordross. 9.30 Dance On Sixpence. Worcester: 3 15 Willow Gale. 4.15 Captain Caveman.

7.10 WATCH SECURITY HANDICAP CHASE (£4,500: 3m 2f) (7)

1 2211 UNHOLY ALLIANCE 10 (F,G,S) K Bailey 8-12-0 — N Williamson
2 2-PU COPPER MINE 14 (F,G,S) O Sherwood 9-11-8 — J Osborne
3 P312 INVASION 7 (B,BF,F,G,S) O Brennan 11-10-10 — M Brennan
4 16P0 PETTY BRIDGE 21 (F,G,S) A James 11-10-10 — R Dunwoody
5 3021 CHANNELS GATE 7 (CD,F,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 11-10-9 — C Llewellyn
6 14-3 VIRIDIAN 278 (F,G,S) J O'Shea 10-10-0 — F Leahy (3)
7 55-U SAILOR'S DELIGHT 7 (F,G) K Wingrove 11-10-0 — J Ryan

5-2 Unholy Alliance, 7-2 Channels Gate, 4-1 Invasion, 5-1 Petty Bridge, 7-1 Copper Mine, 8-1 Viridian, 16-1 Sailor's Delight.

7.40 TYRE SALES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,525: 2m) (6)

1 5-61 SABAKI RIVER 19 (D,F,G,S) Mrs J Retter 11-11-10 R Dunwoody
2 1461 MULCIBER 7 (CD,F) G Harwood 7-11-5 — M Perrett
3 2245 ROUTING 28 (F) N Ayliffe 7-10-12 — B Powell
4 220U DESTINY CALLS 21 (BF,D,G) N Gaselee 5-10-11 — C Llewellyn
5 2500 AMBASSADOR ROYALE 22 (D,F,G) Miss Boyd 7-10-7 R Supple
6 4001 BARNEY'S GIFT 56 (D,F,S) O Brennan 7-10-0 — M Brennan

2-1 Mulciber, 9-4 Sabaki River, 3-1 Destiny Calls, 8-1 Routing, Barney's Gift, 14-1 Ambassador Royale.

8.10 TAKE A FRIEND FISHING NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,048: 3m 2f) (4)

1 1211 COOL DAWN 42 (F,G,S) H Wellstead 7-12-7 Miss D Harding (7)
2 4560 EVENING RUSH 14 (B,G,S) Mrs A Farrell 9-12-0 K Drewry (7)
3 /P1- ROGEVIC BELLE 457 (G) Mrs S Stafford 7-12-0 — G Brown (7)
4 -PP0 THE MERRY GAMBLER 51 (S) L Grassick 13-12-0 J Grassick (7)

1-6 Cool Dawn, 10-1 Rogevic Belle, 12-1 Evening Rush, 20-1 The Merry Gambler.

8.40 BONUSPRINT NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,602: 2m) (15)

1 1 EXTERIOR PROFILES 21 (F) N T-Davies 5-12-0 — K Brown (7)
2 ALLEGRO PRINCE A J Wilson 5-11-7 — G Hogan (5)
3 CHAI-YO J Old 5-11-7 — Pat Thompson (7)
4 0 COLOURFUL BOY 44 H Manners 6-11-7 — M Appleby (7)
5 0-0 DANCING SUPREME 147 W Mann 5-11-7 — Mr D Verco
6 DIVINER I Balding 5-11-7 — Mr A Balding (7)
7 00- KENNINGTON KUWAIT 371 R Juckes 5-11-7 — N Juckes (7)
8 KINGS HIGH T Thomson Jones 5-11-7 — A Bates (5)
9 0 RAMBLING OATS 31 O Sherwood 6-11-7 — M Berry (7)
10 0 CELESTIAL DOLLAR 26 N Babbage 4-11-2 — Mr A Mitchell (7)
11 ROYAL SILVER T Forster 4-11-2 — A P McCoy
12 SLEAZEY J J O'Neill 4-11-2 — S Curran (3)
13 SUCCOTASH P Makin 4-11-2 — F Leahy (3)
14 3 THE NED 30 B Smart 4-11-2 — S Lyons (3)
15 RAGOSA J White 4-10-11 — P McLoughlin (3)

9-4 Exterior Profiles, 3-1 Diviner, 5-1 Chai-Yo, 7-1 Rambling Oats, 8-1 Succotash, 10-1 Royal Silver, The Ned, 12-1 others.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

7.00 Fiddles Delight. 7.30 Reported. 8.00 Jaraab. 8.30 Sand Star. 9.00 Mustaffa. 9.30 Captain Marmalade.

GOING: STANDARD — DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE — SIS

7.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND EG CONSULTING MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,847: 5f) (5 runners)

1 COLOUR COUNSELLOR K McAuliffe 9-0 — J Tate (3) 1
2 COOL CAPER A Foster 9-0 — R Painter (5) 4
3 DOUBLEYOUBEAY J Berry 9-0 — J Carroll 5
4 02 U-NO-HARRY 9 R Hollinshead 9-0 — T Ives 3
5 4 FIDDLES DELIGHT 4 M Channon 8-9 — R Hughes 2

7-4 Fiddles Delight, 9-4 U-No-Harry, 11-4 Doubleyoubeay, 8-1 others.

7.30 BETA HEAT TREATMENT SUPERFAST NITRIDING CLAIMING STAKES (£2,519: 1m 1f 79yd) (13)

1 -543 WENTBRIDGE LAD 12 (B,CD,G,S) B McMahon 5-9-11 — G Carter 5
2 2-0 TRAPEZE 33 (B) C Popham 4-9-7 — D R McCabe (3) 12
3 3403 POP TO STANS 24 (C,F,G) J Pearce 6-9-5 Elizabeth Turner (7) 7
4 405- REPORTED 275 (F,S) B Preece 6-9-5 — J Weaver 13
5 300- LOVE OF THE NORTH 178 (G) R Juckes 4-9-1 — A Garth (5) 6
6 201/ TONY'S DELIGHT 26J (D,G) C Egerton 7-9-1 — R Hughes 9
7 6000 PORT SUNLIGHT 8 (D,F,S) P Evans 7-8-13 — J Tate (3) 10
8 5306 KRISTIS GIRL 12 (V,G,S) D Haydn Jones 8-8-12 — A Mackay 4
9 LORD FREDERICK Miss S Wilton 3-8-10 — S D Williams 3
10 006- T'NIEL 350 G Fierro 4-8-10 — M Wigham 1
11 4052 FIABA 14 (G) Mrs N Macauley 7-8-8 — Amanda Sanders (7) 8
12 305- NORDROSS 28P (V) R Juckes 7-8-8 — S Drowne (5) 11
13 TURRILL HOUSE W Musson 3-8-1 — P McCabe (5) 2

2-1 Wentbridge Lad, 3-1 Reported, 6-1 Fiaba, 7-1 Pop To Stans, 8-1 others.

8.00 UES BRIGHT BAR HANDICAP (£3,210: 1m 6f 166yd) (10)

1 4240 SURPRISE GUEST 8 (C,F,G,S) A James 4-10-0 — F Norton 5
2 5000 CHIMBORAZO 11 B Mcmath 4-9-13 — A Mackay 7
3 2063 PREMIER DANCE 14 (CD,F,G) D Haydn Jones 8-9-10 — S Drowne (5) 1
4 1001 JARAAB 14 (V,CD,G) G Lewis 4-9-7 — S Whitworth 10
5 4001 NIGELSCHINAPALACE 32 (G) Miss S Wilton 6-8-10 — G Faulkner (7) 6
6 4100 SWORDKING 11 (CD,F,G,S) J L Harris 6-8-7 — Paul Eddery 9
7 005- LAABAS 283J (S) J Long 12-8-5 — T Field (7) 8
8 000- SPICE AND SUGAR 220 (F,S) B Cambidge 5-7-13 T Williams 4
9 0306 TURFMANS VISION 32 R Hollinshead 5-7-12 — A Garth (5) 3
10 40-0 DORMSTON BOYO 38J K White 5-7-9 — D Wright (3) 2

5-2 Jaraab, 7-2 Nigelschinapalace, 4-1 Premier Dance, 5-1 Laabas, 7-1 Swordking, 10-1 Chimborazo, 12-1 Surprise Guest, 20-1 others.

8.30 GOODYEAR HANDICAP (£3,288: 6f) (11)

1 2341 THE OLD CHAPEL 14 (B,D,F,S) B McMahon 6-9-12 F Norton 5
2 2506 PAGEBOY 95 (D,F,G) P Haslam 6-9-11 — J Weaver 2
3 3341 AT THE SAVOY 17 (B,D,G) T Barron 4-9-5 Kimberley Hart (7) 7
4 2650 ROCKY TWO 9 (B,G) P Howling 4-9-1 — Paul Eddery 6
5 62-6 DISCO BOY 9 (B,C,G) B McMahon 5-9-1 — T Ives 9
6 0004 TYRONE FLYER 9 (B,S) G Fierro 6-8-9 — M Wigham 4
7 2162 SAND STAR 12 (G) D Haydn Jones 3-8-1 — A Mackay 1
8 4512 EFFICACY 17 (CD,G) A Jarvis 4-7-13 — B Hunter (7) 10
9 0040 GREY TOPPA 1 (F,G) N Littmoden 4-7-13 — R Price 8
10 0000 MAKE THE BREAK 18 (B,D,F,G) S Coathup 4-7-12 T Williams 11
11 0-06 GATE OF HEAVEN 17 John Berry 5-7-7 — N Kennedy 3

4-1 The Old Chapel, 9-2 At The Savoy, 5-1 Pageboy, 11-2 Sand Star, 7-1 others.

9.00 LIFTING GEAR & TOOL HIRE SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,245: 6f) (8)

1 1 MOI CANARD 12 (G) J Berry 9-3 — J Carroll 2
2 42 MUSTAFFA 18 M Channon 8-12 — R Hughes 1
3 231 NAMELESS 14 (C,G) D Cosgrove 8-12 — D Gibbs (7) 8
4 51 SHANDORA 17 (V,G) B Palling 8-12 — T Sprake 5
5 EUSKARA M Usher 8-7 — R Street 7
6 4 IN A TIZZY 44 P Haslam 8-7 — J Weaver 6
7 SUBFUSK W G M Turner 8-7 — P McCabe (5) 3
8 SWANGROVE M Meade 8-7 — V Slattery 4

5-2 Moi Canard, 3-1 Nameless, 7-2 Shandora, 9-2 Mustaffa, 7-1 In A Tizzy, 14-1 Subfusk, 16-1 Euskara, 50-1 Swangrove.

9.30 CASTLE HILL CASINO APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£2,550: 1m 100yd) (8)

1 500- MARSH ARAB 178 J Balding 4-9-10 — J Edmunds 6
2 2510 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 17 (D,G) D Thom 6-9-10 — G Milligan 7
3 102- DANCE ON SIXPENCE 14J (B,D,F,G) J Peacock 7-9-9 D Denby 5
4 00-0 YOUNG SENSATION 9 B Pearce 3-8-13 — J Wilkinson 2
5 650- SPARKLING ROBERTA 185 (D,G) M Usher 4-8-13 — Aimee Cook 8
6 0-10 WHITELOCK QUEST 40 (D,G) N Berry 7-8-9 — Adelle Gibbons 3
7 0-00 STARLIGHT FLYER 19 (B,D,F,G,S) J Long 8-8-1 — T Reid (5) 1
8 00-4 OLIVIA VAL 28 A Newcombe 5-7-11 — B Halligan 4

7-4 Dance On Sixpence, 3-1 Captain Marmalade, 7-2 Whitelock Quest, 9-2 Sparkling Roberta, 10-1 Young Sensation, 16-1 Marsh Arab, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Warwick

Trainers: N Gaselee, 10 winners from 38 runners, 26.3%; G Harwood, 3 from 12, 25.0%; M Pipe, 34 from 137, 24.8%; S Christian, 6 from 28, 21.4%; O Sherwood, 9 from 49, 18.4%; Mrs J Retter, 3 from 20, 15.0%. Jockeys: R Dunwoody, 42 winners from 122 rides, 34.4%; M Perrett, 8 from 36, 22.2%; N Williamson, 11 from 58, 19%; T Jenks, 6 from 32, 18.8%; J Osborne, 14 from 91, 15.4%; G McCourt, 7 from 53, 13.2%.

Wolverhampton

Trainers: G Lewis, 5 winners from 20 runners, 25.0%; P Haslam, 19 from 84, 22.6%; T Barron, 8 from 39, 20.5%; J Pearce, 4 from 23, 17.4%; M Channon, 6 from 37, 16.2%; J Berry, 22 from 142, 15.5%. Jockeys: T Ives, 17 winners from 73 rides, 23.3%; J Weaver, 41 from 183, 22.4%; F Norton, 3 from 16, 18.8%; Amanda Sanders, 3 from 17, 17.6%; J Tate, 3 from 18, 16.7%; G Carter, 12 from 74, 16.2%.

Worcester

Trainers: Miss H Knight, 14 winners from 43 runners, 32.6%; B Smart, 3 from 10, 30.0%; M Pipe, 42 from 145, 29%; P Nicholls, 9 from 33, 27.3%; P Hobbs, 29 from 120, 24.2%; K Bailey, 16 from 86, 18.6%. Jockeys: J Osborne, 30 winners from 122 rides, 24.6%; Peter Hobbs, 17 from 82, 20.7%; N Williamson, 22 from 121, 18.2%; A Thornton, 3 from 17, 17.6%; S Curran, 4 from 23, 17.4%.

General Monash leads strong raid on French classics

FROM OUR FRENCH RACING CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS

GENERAL MONASH and Hoh Magic are among five British challengers for the French 2,000 and 1,000 Guineas, run at Longchamp tomorrow and televised live on BBC2.

The Peter Chapple-Hyam-trained General Monash is joined by Vettori in a nine-runner field for the group one Dubai Poule d'Essai des Poulains (2,000 Guineas).

John Reid rides General Monash, whose greatest triumph came in France last July, when he won the Prix Robert Papin at Maisons-Laffitte. Unraced since finishing lame in the Heinz 57 Phoenix Stakes last August, General Monash will be attempting to avenge last year's narrow defeat of his stable companion, Turtle Island.

Frankie Dettori partners Vettori, a Newmarket maiden winner for Henry Cecil last October, but now trained by Saeed bin Suroor having wintered in Dubai.

The top French hopes are Criquette Head's Atticus, the impressive winner of Prix de Fontainebleau, and André Fabre's Lyphard's Honor.

Hoh Magic (Michael Fenton) makes a swift reappearance in the Dubai Poule d'Essai des Pouliches after finishing a highly creditable fourth in the Madagans 1,000 Guineas.

Like General Monash, Michael Bell's filly also knows what it takes to win a top French prize, having landed the Prix Morny at Deauville last August.

She faces 15 rivals, including another pair of Dubai imports, Deceive (Dettori), who won her only start for James Fanshawe last season, and Nuriva (Michael Kinane), who finished seventh in last year's Cheveley Park Stakes. Deceive and Nuriva will be coupled in the betting with the Fabre-trained Tereshkova.

Criquette Head again saddles the likely favourite in Matiara, who beat Shaanxi by a neck in the Prix de la Grotte. Smolensk, who was touched off by Macoumba in the Prix Imprudence, will also have her supporters.

Longchamp stages a third group one contest, the Prix Lupin. Only six runners go to post for this 10½-furlong Derby trial, but they include the John Gosden-trained Flemensfirth, who split Munwar and Eltish in the Feilden Stakes at Newmarket's Craven meeting last month.



Bell: saddles Hoh Magic

LONGCHAMP TOMORROW

GOING: GOOD — BBC2

3.00 DUBAI POULE D'ESSAI DES POULICHES (Group I: 3-Y-O fillies: £119,760: 1m) (16 runners)

1 (10) 410- NURIVA (Maktoum Al-Maktoum) S Bin Suroor (GB) 3-9-2 — M J Kinane
2 (7) 22132-4 TERESHKOVA (Sheikh Mohammed) A Fabre 3-9-2 — T Gillet
3 (8) 1114-24 HOH MAGIC (D Allport) M Bell (GB) 3-9-2 — M Fenton
4 (6) 12-1 MATIARA (Ecurie Aland) Mme C Head 3-9-2 — F Head
5 (4) 3111-3 CARLING (Ecurie Delbart) Mme P Barbe 3-9-2 — T Thulliez
6 (13) 1-1510 TIROLLING (Ecurie Kura) J Foresi 3-9-2 — F Sanchez
7 (5) 51110-4 GHOSTLY (Ecurie Skymarc Farm) P Bary 3-9-2 — D Boeuf
8 (12) 1234-3 TAKE LIBERTIES (T Ellis) A Fabre 3-9-2 — Paul Eddery
9 (1) 2330-1 CHRYSALU (D Kahn) N Clement 3-9-2 — G Mosse
10 (16) 10232-5 COLLECTA (D Kendall) J Hammond 3-9-2 — E Saint-Martin
11 (1) 33321-0 VADLAMIXA (J-L Lagardere) A Fabre 3-9-2 — S Guillot
12 (2) 1- DECEIVE (Maktoum Al-Maktoum) S Bin Suroor (GB) 3-9-2 — L Dettori
13 (14) 1-2 SMOLENSK (P de Moussac) A Fabre 3-9-2 — T Jarnet
14 (15) 33232-1 PIQUETNOL (S Niarchos) J Hammond 3-9-2 — C Asmussen
15 (9) 1-6 FAIRY PATH (Lord Weinstock) D Smaga 3-9-2 — Pat Eddery
16 (3) 11-12 SHAANXI (T Yoshida) E Lellouche 3-9-2 — O Peslier

BETTING: 3-1 Matiara, 7-2 Shaanxi, 5-1 Smolensk, 11-2 Nuriva, Tereshkova and Deceive (three coupled), 9-1 Hoh Magic, 10-1 Carling, 14-1 Ghostly, 16-1 Fairy Path, Vadlamixa, 25-1 Piquetnol, 33-1 others.

3.35 DUBAI POULE D'ESSAI DES POULAINS (Group I: 3-Y-O colts: £119,760: 1m) (9 runners)

1 (9) 26-513 VIVA NUREYEV (B) (Sheikh Mohammed) A Fabre 3-9-2 — S Guillot
2 (1) 41- VETTORI (Maktoum Al-Maktoum) S Bin Suroor (GB) 3-9-2 — L Dettori
3 (4) 1-22 BENE ERIT (R McNair) C Laffon-Parias 3-9-2 — F Head
4 (8) 6-112 PETIT POUCET (S Niarchos) N Clement 3-9-2 — C Asmussen
5 (3) -13 KIRDOUN (D Peyroni) E Lellouche 3-9-2 — D Boeuf
6 (7) 1310- GENERAL MONASH (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam (GB) 3-9-2 — J Reid
7 (6) 2221-1 LYPHARD'S HONOR (Mme Y Seydoux de Clausonne) A Fabre 3-9-2 — T Jarnet
8 (2) 21-1 ATTICUS (J Wertheimer) Mme C Head 3-9-2 — O Doleuze
9 (5) 022-06 SEA GONE (J Wertheimer) Mme C Head 3-9-2 — R Libert

BETTING: 2-1 Atticus and Sea Gone (coupled), 5-2 Lyphard's Honor, 4-1 Vettori and Viva Nureyev (coupled), 5-1 Petit Poucet, 6-1 General Monash, 10-1 Bene Erit, 14-1 Kirdoun.

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Lingfield Park

Going: good to firm (turf); standard (AW)

2.20 (5f) 1, To The Whire (B Rouse, 5-2); 2, Welsh Mountain (11-8 fav); 3, Petite Annie (20-1) 9 ran. NR: Chik's Secret. Hd, 1¼l. G L Moore. Tote: £3.30; £1.10, £1.20, £4.40. DF: £2.60. Trio: £27.80. CSF £6.30.

2.50 (1m 2f) 1, Bajan (Mr P Pritchard-Gordon, 5-1 jt-fav); 2, Montone (11-2); 3, Shaarid (5-1 jt-fav). 15 ran. NR: Cheveley Dancer. 6l, 5l. Lady Herries. Tote: £4.30; £2.10, £1.60, £2.10. DF: £9.10. Trio: £7.50. CSF: £29.85. Tricast: £131.65.

3.20 (1m) 1, Whatever's Right (T Quinn, 9-1); 2, Indian Serenade (9-1); 3, Hatta Sunshine (8-1). Spencer's Revenge 7-2 fav. 11 ran. 2½l, 2½l. M Usher. Tote: £12.10; £3.40, £3.70, £2.90. DF: £75.30. Trio: £184.00. CSF: £79.08. Tricast: £615.50.

3.50 (5f) 1, Hickory Blue (J Weaver, 10-1); 2, Bashful Brave (3-1 fav); 3, Tharwa (4-1). 15 ran. NR: Sandra Dee. 2l, 1½l. Mrs N Macauley. Tote: £13.20; £2.40, £2.10, £1.90. DF: £43.60. Trio: £56.10. CSF: £40.17. Tricast: £136.23.

4.20 (7f 140yd) 1, Bernard Seven (L Dettori, 7-2); 2, Bin Rosie (4-11 fav); 3, Friendly Brave (25-1). 5 ran. ¾l, 7l. S Woods. Tote: £4.70; £1.40, £1.10. DF: £1.60. CSF: £5.01.

4.50 (7f 140yd) 1, Greenwich Again (J Reid, 7-2); 2, Nashaat (25-1); 3, Astral Invader (10-1). Jolto 15-8 fav. 10 ran. Nk, nk. T Mills. Tote: £5.90; £2.00, £3.90, £2.40. DF: £97.40. Trio: £259.70. CSF: £73.61.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £69,676.37 carried forward to Worcester today).

Placepot: £164.00. Quadpot: £97.90 (part won; pool of £105.92 carried forward to Lingfield today).

Beverley

Going: good to firm

2.30 (5f) 1, Monsieur Culsyth (G Carter, 8-2); 2, Swiss Valley Lady (2-1); 3†, Grimstone Girl (20-1); 3†, Imprimis (12-1). Orange And Blue 6-4 fav. 9 ran. Sh hd, 2½l. J Berry. Tote: £4.60; £1.40, £1.30; Grimstone Girl £2.50, Imprimis £1.30. DF: £6.70. Trio: Monsieur Culsyth with Swiss Valley Lady and Grimstone Girl, £23.40. Monsieur Culsyth with Swiss Valley Lady and Imprimis, £23.80.

3.00 (2m 35yd) 1, Rolling The Bones (A Mackay, 11-10 fav); 2, Vain Prince (8-1); 3, Hullbank (9-2). 7 ran. 1l, hd. P Felgate. Tote: £1.80; £1.20, £2.40. DF: £4.20. CSF: £9.66.

3.30 (1m 100yd) 1, Chantry Bellini (Darren Moffatt, 33-1); 2, Murphy's Gold (15-2); 3, Calder King (8-1). Thatched 4-1 fav. 15 ran. 1¾l, nk. Mrs S Austin. Tote: £52.00; £9.70, £1.60, £4.10. DF: £277.00. Trio: £396.80 (part won; pool of £447.21 carried forward to 2.30 at Beverley today). CSF: £252.83. Tricast: £2,218.46.

4.00 (1m 1f 207yd) 1, Sahil (W Carson, 2-1 fav; Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Saleel (11-2); 3, Dont Forget Curtis (5-2). 7 ran. Hd, 8l. D Morley. Tote: £2.70; £1.60, £2.90. DF: £4.80. CSF: £12.82.

4.30 (1m 3f 216yd) 1, Ho-Joe (S Morris, 6-1); 2, Merry Mermaid (7-1); 3, Scalp 'em (7-2 jt-fav). Floating Line 7-2 jt-fav. 11 ran. NR: Irish Senor. 1¼l, ¾l. J Carr. Tote: £4.70; £2.00, £2.70, £1.30. DF: £34.90. Trio: £38.90. CSF: £46.03. Tricast: £157.45.

5.00 (5f) 1, Three Stops (W R Swinburn, 8-11 fav); 2, Never Such Bliss (9-1); 3, Never Say So (25-1). 10 ran. NR: Truly Madly Deeply. ¾l, 1½l. M Stoute. Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £2.30, £5.50. DF: £5.30. Trio: £48.40. CSF: £8.88.

Placepot: £68.00. Quadpot: £47.10.

Carlisle

Going: firm (hard in places)

2.40 (5f) 1, Tadeo (R Hughes, 8-4 fav); 2, Evening Chime (13-8); 3, Laurel Crown (5-1). 4 ran. 1¾l, 9l. M Channon. Tote: £2.10. DF: £1.90. CSF: £4.37.

3.10 (5f) 1, Giggleswick Girl (R Hughes, 4-1); 2, Kenesha (14-1); 3, Followmegirls (5-2 fav). 8 ran. NR: Oscar The Second. ¾l, 1¾l. M Channon. Tote: £3.50; £1.60, £3.80, £1.10. DF: £25.40. Trio: £12.70. CSF: £38.18. First Option (9-1) was withdrawn, not under orders. Rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 10p in pound.

3.40 (5f 207yd) 1, The Kings Ransom (K Fallon, 6-4 fav); 2, Northern Spark (10-1); 3, Brisas (7-1). 8 ran. 2½l, 1l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £2.40; £1.20, £1.50, £1.60. DF: £10.70. CSF: £15.38. Tricast: £73.37.

4.10 (6f 208yd) 1, Profit Release (D Holland, 5-2 fav); 2, Obsidian Grey (6-1); 3, Blow Dry (11-2). 9 ran. ¾l, 2l. M Johnston. Tote: £3.40; £1.10, £1.70, £2.10. DF: £8.60. Trio: £38.90. CSF: £16.48.

4.40 (7f 214yd) 1, Indian Rhapsody (N Carlisle, 4-1); 2, Heathyards Magic (13-8 fav); 3, Fishy Affair (5-2). 5 ran. Sh hd, 3½l. M Channon. Tote: £3.50; £1.50, £1.30. DF: £2.50. CSF: £10.17.

5.10 (1m 6f 32yd) 1, Arc Bright (A Garth, 2-1); 2, Persuasive (7-4 fav); 3, Lord Advocate (20-1). 8 ran. Nk, 8l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £3.40; £1.20, £1.60. DF: £2.40. CSF: £5.65.

Placepot: £19.40.

Quadpot: £9.70.

Market Rasen

Going: good to firm, good in places

6.00 (2m 6f 110yd ch) 1, General Giggs (Mr C Bonner, 5-1); 2, Osgathorpe (5-1); 3, Mr Fudge (4-6 fav). 7 ran. NR: Adamare, Sea Breaker. 4l, sh hd. J Leigh. Tote: £5.20; £1.90, £2.60. DF: £13.60. Trio: £3.00. CSF: £28.38.

Stratford

Going: good, good to firm in places

6.10 (3m ch) 1, Rusty Bridge (Mr R Johnson, 8-1); 2, What A To Do (25-1); 3, Air Commander (16-1). Sandybraes 5-6 fav. 8 ran. NR: Chardan. 2½l, 6l. Mrs S Johnson. Tote: £5.20; £1.60, £3.80, £2.10. DF: £98.40. Trio: £103.50. CSF: £98.80.

Thursday's late details

Sedgefield

Going: good to firm

6.15 (2m 1f 110yd) 1, Cheeky Pot (P Niven, 7-4); 2, Catch The Pigeon (11-1); 3, Atherton Green (4-6 fav). 5 ran. NR: Perspicacity. 3½l, 5l. Denys Smith. Tote: £2.70; £1.10, £2.90. DF: £21.70. CSF: £15.90.

6.45 (2m 5f 110yd) 1, Croxdale Grey (D Bentley, 9-1); 2, Fret (2-1); 3, On Golden Pond (Evens fav). 6 ran. NR: Knights, Whistling Gipsy. 15l, 6l. Ms L Plater. Tote: £9.50; £2.80, £1.90. DF: £9.20. CSF: £25.15.

7.15 (3m 3f) 1, Blazing Dawn (Mr M Thompson, 16-1); 2, Upwell (20-1); 3, Little General (6-1). Wilkubelong 11-4 fav. 10 ran. 2½l, 4l. V Thompson. Tote: £23.90; £3.80, £4.20, £1.30. DF: £90.90. Trio: £97.50. CSF: £232.86. Tricast: £1,914.52.

7.45 (2m 1f) 1, Bishopdale (G Cahill, 10-1); 2, Another Red (10-11 fav); 3, Bossburg (7-1). 6 ran. 6l, 3½l. S Chadwick. Tote: £7.30; £2.10, £1.60. DF: £3.90. CSF: £19.05.

8.15 (2m 1f) Race void.

8.45 (2m 5f 110yd) 1, T O O Mamma's (S Melrose, 11-4); 2, Down The Fell (7-4 fav); 3, Grey Realm (14-1). 8 ran. Hd, 11l. J Oliver. Tote: £3.10; £1.10, £1.10, £3.20. DF: £3.90. CSF: £7.84. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

Placepot: £109.30. Quadpot: not won.

Hamilton Park

Going: good to firm, good in places

6.30 (5f 4yd) 1, Diet (Mr L Donnelly, 14-1); 2, Tee Tee Too (6-1); 3, Katar (12-1). Miss Siham 7-2 fav. 14 ran. NR: Leading Princess. 1¾l, nk. Miss L Perratt. Tote: £12.50; £3.00, £3.00, £3.20. DF: £92.50. Trio: £199.20 (part won; pool of £56.13 carried forward to today). CSF: £88.90. Tricast: £957.41.

7.00 (5f 4yd) 1, Gothenberg (D Holland, 7-4); 2, Onole (33-1); 3, Abbott Of Whalley (5-1). Aussie 4-5 fav. 5 ran. 4l, 1¾l. M Johnston. Tote: £3.20; £1.20, £11.10. DF: £53.00. CSF: £27.36.

7.30 (1m 5f 9yd) 1, Noyan (K Darley, 9-4); 2, Mentalasanythin (6-4 fav); 3, Guards Brigade (12-1). 8 ran. ¾l, 3½l. L Lungo. Tote: £3.60; £1.80, £1.20, £2.20. DF: £3.00. CSF: £6.10. Tricast: £28.84.

8.00 (1m 4f 17yd) 1, Westminster (P Robinson, 7-4); 2, Toraja (1-2 fav); 3, Jackmanii (16-1). 5 ran. Hd, 12l. M Tompkins. Tote: £3.60; £1.20, £1.10. DF: £1.30. CSF: £3.05.

8.30 (1m 65yd) 1, King Curan (A Mackay, 4-1 fav); 2, Aljawab (11-2); 3, Mr Rough (5-1). 11 ran. 1½l, shd. A Bailey. Tote: £5.10; £1.60, £2.90, £2.10. DF: £7.80. Trio: £21.00. CSF: £24.57. Tricast: £100.56.

9.00 (1m 1f 36yd) 1, Gospel Song (K Fallon, 12-1); 2, Concer Un (Evens fav); 3, Three Arch Bridge (5-2). 6 ran. ¾l, 2½l. W Kemp. Tote: £10.20; £3.70, £1.10. DF: £12.90. CSF: £24.47.

Placepot: £60.20. Quadpot: £3.60.



We reserve the right to decline to open an account for you. Phone for written details. First Direct is a division of Midland Bank plc. Member HSBC Group

Saturday portrait: **Sam Torrance** by John Hopkins, golf correspondent

Ryder Cup warrior driven by pursuit of romantic ending

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN



The name Sam is down-to-earth and classless, military and heroic. It smacks of Union Jacks and brass bands, of the British Tommy, gun at the ready, boots gleaming, the man to help save the country.

A pianist named Sam was the subject of one of the most misquoted lines from a film. Ingrid Bergman did not say "play it again, Sam" in *Casablanca*, but it hardly matters. "Play it again Sam" it has become and "play it again Sam" it will remain. The Sam Browne is the belt of the British soldier, named after General Sam Browne who invented it. In one of Stanley Holloway's famous monologues, Sam was the soldier the lugubrious entertainer implored to "Pick Up Tha' Musket".

So it is appropriate that Sam Torrance, one of the most popular golfers on the PGA European Tour and the man who appears to embody the virtues that have become associated with his Christian name, should have won his nineteenth tournament last weekend, slap bang in the midst of celebrations for VE-Day. For once it was not "Play It Again, Sam" but rather "We'll Meet Again."

One of the pleasing sideshows at European golf tournaments involves members of the Torrance family and the close-knit unity between father, mother and son is touching to behold. Father Bob, a professional golfer all his life, can be found on the practice ground tending to the swings of any number of players, rasping out instructions in a voice that can strip wallpaper and can, sometimes, be understood by Sassenachs.

There are countless professionals who have passed through his knowledgeable hands and the brilliant Scottish amateurs, Stephen Gallacher and Gordon Sherry, are two of the men who have yet to turn professional who are benefiting from the wisdom Torrance has acquired from a lifetime in the game.

Occasionally to be seen at a tournament is June Torrance, Bob's wife, whose selflessness may qualify her for a sainthood before long. Quietly-spoken, infinitely patient, she circles endlessly in search of one or other of her menfolk. Such is the strength of the bond between mother and only child that Sam was mortified last year when he remembered he had forgotten to send his mother a bunch of flowers to celebrate her birthday.

And then there is Sam. Play it again, Sam. Sam, the Ryder Cup hero, with arms stretched to the heavens after he had holed the putt that won the Ryder Cup for Europe in 1985, the third of his seven consecutive appearances in this event. Sam, the man who rolls his own cigarettes and puts them behind one ear, like a butcher's pencil. Sam, the man who was one of the first to adopt that unwieldy broom-handle putter that looks so ridiculous. For him, though, it is a matter of necessity, not aesthetics. "I am not as good a putter as I was but I am a lot better than I might have been," he said.

> **'He could steal his golf partner's malt whisky and Scots would merely say he was a rascal'**

A cameo that tells you a lot about the Torrances during the 1985 Ryder Cup: as Torrance strode up the 18th fairway at The Belfry on the tumultuous concluding afternoon, crowds ringed the green. June Torrance, unable to remain in the clubhouse any longer, appeared at the back of the green. As if by magic, the crowds parted, Red Sea-like, so that the mother of the about-to-be hero could take up a vantage position.

Torrance, who will be 42 in August, is the very model of the modern forty-something. Life did not begin for him when he passed the Phyllosan age but a new lease of life did. In his fortieth year he had the best season of his career, finishing first or second in every fourth event in Europe. He won three events and came second in two others.

Rather quieter was 1994, though as a result of his good play in 1993 he received invitations to compete in the three major championships in the United States for the first time. When the bugles sounded last autumn announcing the start of selection for the biennial competition against the Americans, the old warhorse slipped into his old routine. His nostrils flared, his ears pricked and his game improved discernibly. In only one of the Ryder Cup years since he made his debut in 1981 has he not won at least one tournament.

If Colin Montgomerie is, in the manner of those Bateman cartoons, "The Scot They Cannot Warm To", then Torrance is "The Scot Who Can Do No Wrong". Montgomerie has never been taken fully to the hearts of those north of Hadrian's Wall. He lives in Surrey, went to public school and talks posh.

Torrance is forgiven anything — even living in Wentworth, the heart of Toryland, and, most likely, voting Tory. Sam could covet his neighbour's wife, not to mention his ox and his ass, steal his golf partner's malt whisky and do cartwheels down the main street of Auchtermuchty while clearly 15 sheets to the wind and the people who are so reproving of Montgomerie would merely cluck, shake their heads and say: "Och Sam, he's just a gallus."

This gallus, which is an affectionate Scottish term for a rascal, is an incurable romantic, too. When he was on Concorde on his way to the United States with the 1987 Ryder Cup team, Torrance turned to his companion, Suzanne Danielle, and proposed marriage to her. Their obvious closeness at this time led the writer, Chris Plumridge, to joke that towards the end of the week Tony Jacklin, the European team's captain, approached Torrance. "Sam," Jacklin said. "I'm resting you. You're playing."

Torrance and Suzanne are now expecting their third child and their union was formally forged last January in a surprise ceremony he arranged at the hopelessly romantic setting of Skibo Castle, in the north of Scotland. Such was the extent of the celebrations that Torrance's head did not clear for days. Even the heat of Dubai, where he flew after the wedding for the first event of the European season, failed to bring him fully to his senses. He missed the cut.

Some of Torrance's golf is social and played at Sunningdale, where the sums wagered resemble prize-money at lesser tournaments. He looks comfortable enough when he sits in the bay window after a round but he is at his happiest either with his wife and children or when accompanied by a pint of beer with a cigarette in his hand — and with a snooker table nearby. Torrance is scratch at snooker and at celebrating the momentous and less momentous events of his life.

With his black curly hair, his saucy moustache, an ability to raise one eyebrow almost to his hairline and a voice that ought to be declaiming the lines of Shakespeare, Torrance could walk onto a film set and play anything from a suave Scot settling into a life in the Home Counties to a meter-reader in the Gorbals.

His life has been spent in pursuit of a place in the Ryder Cup team and as a martyr to the medical profession. It is not that he is sometimes ill but that he is rarely well. He is so injury-prone a radio commentator suggested he should be permanently paired with Domingo Hospital. Torrance has had cysts in both eyes. When he moved house he did not strain his back but broke a rib. Before the last Ryder Cup he went sleepwalking, crashed into an urn and damaged his sternum. On the eve of the match a toenail turned septic and he was unable to play in the singles.

Now another Ryder Cup draws near and Torrance, playing at St Mellion this weekend, is at present fifth in the team standings. Play it again, Sam.



Ambitious Leeds to rebuild at Headingley

By Christopher Irvine

LEEDS will next week announce plans for a ground fit for rugby league's Super League, which will involve a complete rebuilding of Headingley and an opportunity, finally, to put one over on Wigan, even if it is off the pitch.

While Wigan deliberate staying at Central Park or moving to a new stadium at nearby Robin Park, Leeds are to turn their ground into an all-seater stadium.

Some silverware to help pay for the improvements would not go amiss but the last chance of the season for Leeds is the Stones Bitter premiership, in which they entertain St Helens in a semi-final tomorrow.

Bobby Goulding, who will captain St Helens in the absence of Shane Cooper, who is suspended and was yesterday released by the club after eight years, has been so outstanding that it was no surprise to see him nominated, with Denis Betts and Va'aiga Tuigamala, both of Wigan, as the first division's player of the season.

Ellery Hanley, an award winner in 1985 and 1987, is a conspicuous absentee from the list. Forty-one tries this season, a record by a forward, is a measure of his value to Leeds. A shoulder injury keeps him out of the game tomorrow and it seems he has played his last game for the club before his move to Australia.

After so many disappointments of late, it is hard to see Leeds raising their game sufficiently to stop St Helens reaching their third final in four years.

In the divisional premiership, Keighley, second division champions and Super League outcasts, can prove a point against London Broncos, who finished fourth and are included in the new set-up. Batley and Huddersfield contest the other semi-final.

☐ Penrith yesterday became the latest Australian Rugby League team to join the breakaway Super League in the continuing battle for control of the sport in Australasia.

Hair of the dog hits home with Reds' rejuvenation



SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

You may think that Schottzie's useful career as a mascot and No 1 supporter of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team ended in 1991. But being dead was a handicap that the monstrous St. Bernard dog has risen above with some style. The late but undimmed Schottzie was owned by a hard-drinking, tough-talking old lady named Marge Schott, who also owns the baseball team. Regular readers of this space will recall the trouble she was in a couple of years back for racist remarks about her players and front-office staff.

The Reds were a much fancied side as the season began, but they lost eight of their first nine games. Enter Schottzie: the dog that helped the team from beyond the grave. Marge gathered the players together, and offered to rub their chests and legs with dog hair clipped from the beloved and deceased St. Bernard, before he was buried four long years ago. Hal Morris, first baseman, and the least successful hitter in the team, stepped up first.



The Reds have won their last five games. And Morris is now the hottest hitter in the entire National League, batting .500. After the hangover of defeat, what better than the hair of the dead dog?

A nice theory

I have long been intrigued by the Parallel Universe Theory, and I think I have undeniable proof of the existence of a parallel Lord's. Richard J. Piner wrote to the Lord's ground administrator to say that, at the age of 85, it was about time to watch on telly rather than trek into Lord's for big games. "So, I wish to express my sincere thanks both to you, and for the great bunch of stewards. You have always treated me with kindness and courtesy. I wish you long years to come, and trust that you will continue to show the enthusiasm so appreciated by us all."

Given free rein

This column is positively besieged by old friends this week. Rene Higuita, the greatest goalkeeper in history, has just scored a goal. No, not a penalty. Last Wednesday, he scored from a free kick from just outside the area in Atlético Nacional's 3-1 win over Pereira in the Colombian national championship. "I have never practised free kicks," he said. "There are plenty of players in the team who take them well. I simply saw a chance, took the kick and scored." Scoring is not a new thing for Higuita: he has 36 goals to his credit for Colombia and Atlético. But as they were all from penalties, this is a very special moment in the history of the game.

Diego diplomacy

How can you top a Higuita story? With a Diego story, of course. Our Boy has walked out as manager of Racing Club after four months in charge. For one week of this period he went missing, and for three more he was on leave. But he is the ideal boss. So say the players, anyway. "The best coach I've had in my career," Fernando Quiroz, Racing midfield player, said. "The relationship with the players was perfect." He praised Maradona's knowledge of the game, tact in dealing with players. Gustavo Costas, Racing defender, joined the chorus. "He's an excellent motivator." "He never took out his frustrations on the players," Quiroz added. A shame for us all that the Diego Era of Management is over. But let us hope this is only a temporary pause. I hear there may soon be a vacancy at Arsenal ...

☐ *This is football's most prayerful time of year. "If you have a concern for a particular football club and would like to pray for it regularly ... please let us know." Amid the maelstrom of prayer that accompanies play-offs and relegation battles, not to mention championships, the request, from Christians in Sport, is wonderfully timely.*

Inviting trouble

Mike Tyson has been invited to speak at a Mother's Day benefit organised by Fresno Women's International Network. There have, inevitably, been protests. A woman from a Fresno rape counselling service, bearing the startlingly inappropriate name of Lee Eager, says this "sends the wrong message to the community".

Judge Jeffrey

John Jeffrey, the former Scotland rugby international, is to cycle from Land's End to John o'Groats — right in the middle of the Rugby World Cup. "I'm not doing this merely to be spared the possibility of watching Brian Moore enjoying himself," Jeffrey said unconvincingly. He will be doing the stunt from May 27 to June 9 to raise money for a mobile incubator to transfer babies between two Scottish hospitals. He is willing to undertake fund-raising efforts as he goes, rugby coaching, for example, or cattle-judging.

Revitalised Aberdeen scramble for safety

Kevin McCarra ponders the permutations that will resolve a fraught battle to escape relegation from the Scottish premier division

FEAR brings its own euphoria. Falkirk's ground, Brockville, will surrender two-thirds of its 12,000 capacity this afternoon to the 8,000 Aberdeen supporters who snapped up tickets.

Hitherto, the Pittodrie club has only swept south with such backing when *en route* for a cup final. Today's attraction is just as intense but far darker. Aberdeen require a point to ensure that they are not automatically relegated from the premier division.

It is claimed that a near-death experience whets a person's appreciation for life. Roy Aitken's team appear to bolster the theory. Their demise was almost taken for granted until, two weeks ago, they abruptly started to win. Victories over Heart of Midlothian and Dundee United have been revitalising. Last Saturday's points were secured in an atmosphere of revivalist frenzy. Like a long-winded tale, however, the entire Scottish season is reluctant to reach its punchline. Despite the recent feats, Aberdeen have been allocated a further quantity of anxiety.

Billy Dodds, scorer of three goals in the past two matches, is suspended, as is the midfield player, Peter Hetherston. The team will also lack Eoin Jess, who has injured an ankle. All of these factors mean that the securing of a draw at Brockville is no perfunctory exercise.

The minds of managers and directors at three Scottish clubs teem with permutations. Dundee United are at the foot of the table with 36 points, two behind Aberdeen. Even if the Tannadice club beat Celtic at home today, they will still be relegated should Aberdeen even draw, since their goal difference is inferior.

Aitken's team will enter a play-off with the runners-up in the first division should they remain second from bottom. They do, however, have a chance of ensuring absolute safety by overhauling Hearts, who, following a calamitous run of form, are only two points in front of them and must today meet Motherwell at Tynecastle.

It is impossible to tell whether the Fir Park club, having clinched a Uefa Cup place, will be menacing or somnolent. The need to make such calculations is resented by supporters in Edinburgh. Dundee and Aberdeen. With only four cities, Scotland can hardly feel easy with the idea of representatives from three of them being lost to the premier division.

Aberdeen, Heart of Midlothian and Dundee United are, in different ways, all victims of a failure of long-term planning. At Pittodrie, Willie Miller, the greatest player in the club's history, was installed as manager on a wave of popular sentiment, even though he had virtually no experience in that line of work. The decision was unfair to him and harmful to the club.

Miller spent comparatively large sums in the transfer market with variable results and it was never easy to make out the lineaments of the side he believed was being built. When results slithered into decline, the manager seemed bound to break the habit of failure which had developed in too many minds.

Aitken's contribution, as caretaker, in restoring combativeness should ensure he receives the job on a full-time basis, no matter the outcome at Brockville. He is forced to include a number of fringe players in his squad today.

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	35	20	8	7	59	34	68
Motherwell	35	14	12	9	50	48	54
Hibernian	35	11	17	7	47	36	50
Celtic	35	10	18	7	38	33	48
Falkirk	35	12	12	11	49	45	48
Kilmarnock	35	11	10	14	39	46	43
Partick	35	10	12	13	39	49	42
Hearts	35	11	7	17	42	51	40
Aberdeen	35	9	11	15	41	46	38
Dundee Utd	35	9	9	17	40	55	36

Scraping together personnel, though, is an even greater source of anxiety for Dundee United and not merely because suspensions rule out a few of their most effective performers. Stocks of talent have been running low at Tannadice for years. Indeed, Scott Crabbe and Craig Brewster are the only players of note to be signed from another Scottish club since the late Eighties. In the premier division, it is a commonplace to hear people say they would never move to Dundee United, where a system of low basic wages and high bonuses applies. Lengthy disputes over contracts have also given the place an air of contention.

Billy Kirkwood, appointed manager in succession to Ivan Golac in March, needs to alter the climate of Tannadice. In the short term, for the visit of Celtic, however, he adds the forward, Paddy Connolly, who has broken the same leg twice this seaon. Hearts, crushed by the debts left by a previous regime, have tried to survive with a squad bought on a shoestring.

The decline of these clubs, though, has been matched by upsurge elsewhere. Raith Rovers will add the first division title to the Coca-Cola Cup they have already won if they draw away to Hamilton Academical. Dundee and Dunfermline Athletic, level on points, would then be left to fight over the play-off place. The uncertainty of the whole day is surely invigorating even if Aberdeen, Dundee United and Hearts would surely disagree.

Arsenal beaten at own game played with vital difference



ROB HUGHES
Weekend View

For the better part of two hours in Paris on Wednesday night, the Londoners sang their own rhetoric. "We'll win 'cos we're Arsenal!" Even now they blame misfortune rather than accept the truth: they lost because they are Arsenal, because sooner or later they were bound to meet in Europe a club just as committed to wearing down the opposition and waiting for that "lucky" strike.

Real Zaragoza mixed Latin cunning with Arsenal pragmatism: they played the waiting game, and they had what Arsenal lacked — the element of surprise and of tactical sophistication.

Rather than the obvious human story — of David Seaman, so heroic a penalty stopper last month now in tears at the Parc des Princes — the symbol of Arsenal's defeat was the clash of heads before half-time between Martin Keown and Ray Parlour. Team-mates rushing around in more haste than awareness, they concussed one another going for the same ball. That collision emphasised the extreme physical effort, but the lack of thought, that Arsenal were displaying to an audience of 120 million television viewers across 39 European countries. It was the familiar George Graham tactic: squeeze the enemy until they stop, strike when they are weary.

But the computer, which so invariably cheats sport of its ebb, flow and emotion, for once tells a revealing tale. It shows that both sides were so committed to breaking up the play that for only 65 of the 120 minutes was the ball in play, that Arsenal committed 27 fouls and Zaragoza 21. And, crucially, that Zaragoza, once they committed themselves to more attacking manoeuvres, outshot Arsenal by 22 attempts on goal to just six.

Esnaider's eighth goal of the European season and Nayim's first were like finding pearls on a beach of pebbles: they were struck with audacity, with imagination, and with obvious technique.

But less easy to see and appreciate was the interplay, the rotation of the Spanish team's players. It was no surprise to find any of the outfield players, barring the centre-forward Esnaider, filling defensive positions at any time in the match. This interchanging, first employed so memorably by the Argentinian World Cup-winners of 1986, does not happen by accident, but it does require the most intense training and the most engrained technical ability.

The Argentina team of the Eighties devised the ploy to ensure that the centre-backs, the aging José Luis Brown and the temperamently unreliable Oscar Ruggeri, could not be isolated, overrun, or put under physical siege for long spells. Thus, in that team, all-round gifted players such as the midfielder Ricardo Giusti would sacrifice themselves by reinforcing their own defence, allowing Brown to take much-needed breathers.

Similarly, on Wednesday, with the young lion John Hartson perceived as the physical aggressor who might wear out the Spanish central defence of Javier Aguado and Fernando Caceres (who happens to be an Argentina international), Zaragoza alternated their defenders.

Victor Fernandez, their 34-year-old coach, was the master tactician. Fernandez is both a scholar and an obsessive football trainer. He has a degree in philosophy, but he admits that, while at university, he used to skip lectures to "study" the coaching of his local team, Zaragoza, under the Yugoslav, Vujadin Boskov and the Dutchman, Leo Beenhakker.

Although he never played first-class football, Fernandez graduated from coaching the youth team to become "head coach" of Zaragoza when the team was threatened by relegation and he was barely 30.

> 'Zaragoza mixed Latin cunning with Arsenal pragmatism'

Within four years he had revived them, on a shoestring budget, so that they finished third in the Spanish league last season and are third again at the moment, ahead of Johan Cruyff and all the riches of Barcelona.

So, in Paris, we began to appreciate the patience and the teaching of a rising young master of the coaching profession. When did we ever see, in his Tottenham days, Nayim perform duties predominantly as midfield anchor covering his centre backs? When did we ever see an English team that could spare men the constant physical grind of running, or indeed trust them to use the breathing space that others worked to assure for them?

For Arsenal, the game was one of pragmatism, period; for Zaragoza it was pragmatism with a purpose. They were just as prepared to bore the spectators for as long as it took to lure the opposition into a false impression. But, whereas Arsenal conveyed the rigidity of the English game, the English mentality, Zaragoza struck, admittedly as late as possible, with a goal of fantasy.

We were reminded in the aftermath of a comment made by Alex Ferguson, whose Manchester United team was embarrassed in the European Champions League: "We are producing in this country superbly conditioned physical athletes, but we are not too clever on the mental side." We are still so very English on the playing fields, embarrassed abroad just as we are whenever we are asked to be just a little bit adventurous linguistically.

Premiership relegation and promotion play-offs provide added tension

Palace look down as others are looking up

BY PETER BALL

ANFIELD and Upton Park will be the centre of attention tomorrow, but things will be equally tense at some of the country's most impressive football settings, Newcastle, Molineux and Huddersfield's McAlpine Stadium. While the FA Carling Premiership programme is in its final day, the Endsleigh League enters the play-offs with the first legs of the semi-finals.

At the top, the Premiership is clear cut, but evenly balanced. At the other end, Crystal Palace are strong favourites for relegation, but the possibilities are more complicated, with Aston Villa and even Sheffield Wednesday still in some danger.

"You end up driving yourself round the twist thinking 'if they do this, then so and so will happen'," Brian Little, the Aston Villa manager said yesterday. "When I was watching the Manchester United match the other night and the commentator said West Ham were winning 3-0, I just went straight to bed."

Villa could have few complaints on that score, having themselves benefitted from Liverpool's indolence a week ago, their win meaning that a point at Norwich will guarantee them safety, whatever Palace do at Newcastle. To give them further optimism, Dean Saunders and Steve Staunton are winning the fight to be fit. "It could be close to being the worst or the best moment of my career," Little said.

It is an eventful time for Villa. Doug Ellis, the chairman, returned from Rome proclaiming his hope of signing Paul Gascoigne after a series of meetings with Lazio officials and the player's agent Mel Stein. "I believe our chance of signing him is at least the equal of Glasgow Rangers," Ellis said.

That may depend on Villa retaining a place in the sun. Either way, they are off to the sun next week, meeting Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados on a working holiday. What prize would they get if they won something?

While West Ham did and Villa should escape thanks to meeting Liverpool when they already had their deckchairs out, in Roy Evans' own phrase, poor Palace are having to face teams in more vibrant mood. Tomorrow they go to Newcastle knowing that they need to win and hope that something goes wrong for Villa or even Wednesday, whose home game against relegated Ipswich should make them fireproof.

Newcastle are unlikely to be complacent, with an outside chance of a Uefa Cup place. Kevin Keegan, bitterly disappointed at his side's decline, told them yesterday: "Don't settle for being soccer's great entertainers. People love us all over the country, but we need to win something at this club."

Entertainment will be at a premium in the Endsleigh League tomorrow. An FA Cup semi-final is said to be the hardest game to play in and the worst to lose in football. To lose in the semi-final or final of a play-off and see a season's endeavour lost in an afternoon is perhaps more draining.

"There's no point in my impressing on the players the importance of these matches, they know already," Graham Taylor, the Wolverhampton Wanderers manager, said of his side's first division semi-final against Bolton Wanderers. "These games are the closest you can get to a major cup semi-final," John King, the manager of Tranmere Rovers, said yesterday. "It always comes down to who holds their nerve the best."

King speaks from experience, Tranmere going into their fifth play-off during their rise from the old fourth division. They have reached two finals, winning one. Tomorrow they play Reading, whom they beat twice in the league. "We've got a good chance, because we've been there before and know what it's all about," King said.

Reading however won their last four matches to finish second behind Middlesbrough. The loss of Mark McGhee, their manager, in mid-season hardly interrupted their progress, Jimmy Quinn and Mick Gooding taking over in a seamless transition.

Wolves and Bolton, by contrast, were fancied as major challengers to Middlesbrough at the start of the season. Even more recently, Bolton's cup runs and Wolves' financial backing made them look strong candidates for the Premiership. Now one, possibly both, will lose out.

Wolves were undermined by injuries, 10 players needing surgery during the season. Their ill luck continues, Paul Blades being ruled out of tomorrow's match, leaving Taylor 16 fit players. But Bolton have shown signs of tiredness since the Coca-Cola Cup final against Liverpool.

The league meetings between the two were eventful, Wolves losing 5-1 at Burnden Park after winning 3-1 at home but tomorrow should be tighter.

Perhaps the tightest of all will be at Huddersfield, where Brentford are the visitors in the second division play-off. Both threatened consistently to deny Birmingham City the title until the last. Huddersfield fell away towards the end, but Neil Warnock, their manager, has the experience, having already won promotion via the play-offs twice.

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	41	27	8	6	79	37	89
Man Utd	41	26	9	6	76	27	87
Nottm For	41	22	10	9	70	41	76
Leeds	41	20	12	9	58	37	72
Liverpool	41	20	11	10	63	38	71
Newcastle	41	19	12	10	64	45	69
Tottenham	41	16	13	12	65	57	61
QPR	41	16	9	16	58	57	57
Wimbledon	41	15	10	16	46	63	55
Southmptn	41	12	17	12	59	61	53
Arsenal	41	13	12	16	51	47	51
Chelsea	41	12	15	14	48	54	51
West Ham	41	13	10	18	43	47	49
Everton	41	11	16	14	44	51	49
Man City	41	12	13	16	51	61	49
Coventry	41	12	13	16	44	62	49
Sheff Wed	41	12	12	17	45	56	48
Aston Villa	41	11	14	16	50	55	47
C Palace	41	11	12	18	32	46	45
Norwich	41	10	12	19	36	53	42
Leicester	41	6	10	25	43	78	28
Ipswich	41	7	6	28	35	89	27



Saunders, the Aston Villa forward, should be fit to help preserve his club's Premiership status tomorrow

Harding puts cash in to Stamford Bridge

MATTHEW HARDING, the Chelsea director, yesterday paid £16.5 million to become the Premiership club's latest landlord. Harding, 40, whose personal fortune of £150 million is reported to make him the 45th wealthiest man in Great Britain, was recruited onto the Stamford Bridge board 18 months ago by Ken Bates, the chairman.

Bates, the football club's main shareholder, still retains the right to buy the stadium from Harding before the year 2012. In reality, Harding is more likely to try to acquire Bates's interest in his desire to turn Chelsea in to championship material.

Harding has bought the freehold from The Royal Bank of Scotland for an amount that was also on offer to Bates — and he has already committed £3 million towards the construction of the North Stand and also provided £2.5 million for new players.

"I am delighted to have been able to play my part in securing the future of football at Stamford Bridge and am particularly grateful to The Royal Bank of Scotland for their constructive and supportive role in helping me to achieve this objective." Harding, who owns a third of the £500 million-rated Benfield Group re-insurance company, said.

"I believe that this necessary foundation will provide the springboard for Chelsea Football Club to realise its enormous potential and reward the club's supporters for their unfailing patience."

The original rescue package, in 1992, gave Chelsea a new 20-year lease on the Bridge — together with the right to buy the stadium within that time.

Mike Smith, the Wales manager, added Jeremy Goss, of Norwich City, and Ryan Giggs, of Manchester United, to his 18-strong squad for the European championship qualifying match against Georgia in Cardiff on June 7.

Kidderminster shoot for consolation

Walter Gammie looks forward to a showpiece FA Umbro Trophy final as the non-league calendar reaches its climax at Wembley

IF JUSTICE had been on their side, Kidderminster Harriers would not be playing in the FA Umbro Trophy final in which they meet Woking, the holders, at Wembley tomorrow. As the 1993-94 Vauxhall Conference champions, Kidderminster should have spent this season in the Endsleigh Insurance League but fell foul of a controversial deadline for bringing their ground up to standard.

A third trip to Wembley for Graham Allner, the manager, is a substantial consolation. His previous visits brought a 0-0 draw against Burton Albion in 1987 — with victory in the replay at the Hawthorns, and a 2-1 defeat by Wycombe Wanderers in 1991.

Even though Kidderminster's championship aspirations were wrecked by an unending sequence of injuries, the depth in the squad and the big-match temperament so evident in their run to the fifth round of the FA Cup last season mean a Wembley victory at the third attempt is on the cards even against a side which is as consistent as Woking.

With his squad at last fully fit, apart from long-term casualties, Martin Weir and Paul Grainger, Allner said: "Through all the difficulties what's impressed me is that desire and resolve the players have shown to get us to Wembley and I'm looking to them to carry that through all the way to winning the Trophy."

After a poor attendance of 15,818 for last season's final, against Runcorn, which they won 2-1, Woking will this time certainly find themselves matched for support and stylish football. Only Scarborough, in 1976 and 1977, have won the Trophy in successive years and Woking have coped splendidly in their defence of the crown, most notably when winning the quarter-final at Macclesfield Town, behind whom they finished in the Conference.

Unlike Kidderminster, the small Woking squad has remained largely injury free. Darran Hay, a scorer at Wembley last year, has settled back at the club after signing full-time from Cambridge United and forms their spearhead with the irrepressible Clive Walker, 38 later this month. Their only doubt is John Crumplin, the former Brighton player, rated 50-50 in his effort to shake off a hamstring injury sustained in the exacting nine matches in 16 days with which Woking finished their Conference season.

"There's not going to be much in it, no more than a goal if both sides play as well as they can," Geoff Chapple, the Woking manager, said. "I just hope it's the showpiece final everybody wants."

KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS (from): K Rose, S Hodson, P Bancroft, P Webb, C Brindley, R Forsyth, J Deakin, M Yates, D Humphreys, P Davies, J Purdie, N Cartwright, L Hughes, D Powell, L Palmer, M Dearlove

WOKING (from): L Bate, J Crumplin, M Tucker, K Brown, C Fielder, L Wye, K Rattray, A Ellis, S Wye, S Steele, C Walker, D Hay, R Newbery, L Tierling, T Alexander, T Read.

Resurgent Oxford close on prize

OXFORD City start as favourites to win the FA Vase at Wembley today when they play Arlesey Town, the newly-crowned champions of the South Midlands League, which Oxford themselves won two years ago to rise into the Diadora League (Walter Gammie writes).

Having since gained two further promotions to reach the first division next season, Oxford are riding high on the back of a revival confirmed when they moved to their Court Place Farm home in 1993. They are now back where they were when they lost the Whitehouse Road ground through eviction by their landlords, Brasenose College in May 1988, and were forced to withdraw from the league.

Andy Thomas, the player-manager, who had started his Football League career with Oxford United before moving to Newcastle United and Plymouth Argyle, is the fulcrum of the side alongside Darren McNamara and Paul Spittle in midfield.

Arlesey, a village in south Bedfordshire, reached Wembley after a stirring revival in their semi-final against Raunds Town. They trailed 3-0 going into the home leg, which they forced into extra time before winning 5-0. Robbie O'Keefe, their joint player-manager, helps to supply experience in attack.

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Final analysis must reveal no surrender in battle for Premiership supremacy

Blackburn and United bank on honest toil

Rob Hughes, football correspondent, looks at the showdown for the title and says football has to emerge unscathed in a season of sleaze

ANYONE who still believes money cannot buy success in football has one day left to nurse that fond, old-fashioned notion. By 5.45pm tomorrow, either Manchester United or Blackburn Rovers — the club with the biggest turnover or the club with the wealthiest benefactor — will be the champions of England.

On the final sabbath of a nine-month season, all the sweat and toil, all the plotting and the hope, is distilled into 90 minutes. There are three ways in which the FA Carling Premiership trophy can be won or lost in an afternoon.

If Blackburn win at Liverpool, nothing that Manchester United achieve in London against West Ham United can wrench the trophy from them. It would be the first time for 81 years that the Rovers ruled the land.

But if Blackburn draw or lose, and Manchester United win, then United would be crowned champions for the third consecutive season. This could be on goal difference, the difference wrought by United's 9-0 victory over Ipswich Town two months ago.

But, as they strain heart and nerve and sinew in the final matches, let us hope above all else that the integrity of the English game is not questioned by the final whistle. We want no excuses, no descriptions of "deck-chair" attitudes hanging over Anfield or Upton Park tomorrow. We are entitled, after such a season of sleaze and dishonesty in the national game, to demand that, on the field where our reputation is at least committed, honest, competitive, that nothing remotely fraudulent may decide the destiny of a championship trophy that comically needs to be in two places at once.

There is secrecy at Premiership headquarters about where the real championship cup lies this weekend. The odds, of course, favour Anfield, which would mean that if indeed there is a final twist in the tortuous tale, United's players would be asked to drink real champagne from replica silverware.

But that is not the most feared outcome. It is that Liverpool, of all teams, have aroused suspicion about the way they compete, suspicions that, since qualifying for Europe by winning the Coca-Cola Cup, they have been less than professional in surrendering points to teams not remotely comparable to them.

A week ago, the stench rose when they lost to Aston Villa, effectively arranging the outcome of the relegation places. It was that honest man, Ron Evans, the Liverpool manager, who described his team's acquiescence as "a deck-chair day." He observed that a streaker had provoked more movement than his Liverpool team, and Steve Staunton, the Villa captain and the former Liverpool defender, injudiciously stated that Liverpool had not tried a leg.

If that were to happen tomorrow, if things were made easy for the Blackburn manager, Kenny Dalglish, to win the championship in what was for many seasons his spiritual home of Anfield, the damage to English reputation would be irreversible. And yet Alex Ferguson, a fellow Glaswegian and an often coarse verbal opponent of Dalglish, had turned almost a prophet of dishonour on March 19.

His United team had walked off the field defeated 2-0 by Liverpool, and Ferguson had said sourly that he "wouldn't bank on Liverpool" showing similar determination to beat Blackburn if the championship depended on it on the final Sunday.

Evans reacted as he was expected. "It is totally out of order for people to ask me if we felt we were doing any favours for Blackburn today," he said. "We shall play the same way when they come here as we did this afternoon."

Trophy secret 1
Final countdown 43
Arsenal's test 43

Evans, clearly, comes from a different era, a different Liverpool school of pride, to some of the players he hires. The insinuations have not been deflected by the fact that Liverpool have been weakened by injuries to Neil Ruddock, Rob Jones and Stig Inge Bjornebye. There are also doubts that Mark Wright and Ian Rush will be fit to compete tomorrow, yet the youngest of Liverpool's players, Jamie Redknapp, reacted yesterday to all the talk of Liverpudlians — the spectators as well as some at the club — desperately wanting Blackburn to win. In fact, it is not Blackburn that they favour, it is Manchester United that they dislike.

"We've got to be professional about it," insisted Redknapp. "A lot of people are saying we'll let them win. You can't go out and let a team win, it's virtually impossible ... you can't go out and lie down in front of millions."

But let us assume that sporting values prevail, that Liverpool test Blackburn to the limit, and that West Ham, despite their relief at safeguarding Premiership status, with a 3-0 win over Liverpool on Wednesday, also run Manchester as far as they can.

Let us assume that, whichever way it goes, the Scottish mischief, the comments as barbed as a thistle between Dalglish and Ferguson, give way to a genuine salute that, red or blue, the champion is the one who withstood to the last the remorseless demands of the season.

"I could not be wholly satisfied with winning the Premiership if my team had played like Blackburn all season," Ferguson said two weeks ago. That, and other ripostes from Dalglish, had been aimed, across east Lancashire, at needling the other camp.

When tomorrow comes, United, with all their injuries and with the recent resurgence injected by youth, will seek victory built around Gary Pallister, the only United player who has withstood every twist and turn of the season. Blackburn will ask Alan Shearer, also the only ever-present, to score one more time, to equal the 34-goal Premiership record set last season by Andy Cole, then of Newcastle United.

The managers will shout themselves hoarse trying to breathe energy, commitment, into tired players. But as long as the opponents fire back, as long as there is no suggestion of a team winning the ultimate prize as if they were firing on the Red Cross, then we should be satisfied. The battle order could have come from Lord Kitchener with the words he spoke to the British expeditionary force in 1914: "We have to perform a task which will need your courage, your energy, your patience." And your honesty, please.

MARC ASPLAND



Ferguson, the United manager, feels the pressure during his team's victory over Southampton while Dalglish, below, urges on his Blackburn players

Managers remain relaxed

BY PETER BALL

KENNY Dalglish and Alex Ferguson, the two managers trying to win English football's biggest prize tomorrow, yesterday allowed other games to claim their attention. Dalglish concentrated his thoughts on the afternoon's big match — a 20 minutes-a-half game between the Blackburn coaching staff and the Press. Alex Ferguson went to a lunch with his FA Cup Final opposite number, Joe Royle.

If both were relaxed, the big games kept intruding, with Dalglish taking Blackburn back to the club where he won nine trophies as player and manager with the championship in his grasp. He proclaimed the Merseyside club as his role model.

"Liverpool have been the people who set the example on and off the field for the last 30 years," he said, "and if we've reflected what they have done in any way, shape or form we should be a bit proud of that. It is an insult to even suggest that Liverpool football club would not try. We are one game away from the championship, and we might not even have to win that game."

United, by contrast, know there is only one avenue for them, and that is to win at West Ham tomorrow and hope that things go for them at Anfield. But after looking out of the race a few weeks ago, and with Roy Keane fit again, Ferguson was relishing United's late run.

"We know it will be a tremendously volatile situation, but we're absolutely delighted to be in this position on the last game of the season," he said. "From a position of having no chance a few weeks ago, we are now in a position where we have a chance. If we win and they draw, we win the championship."

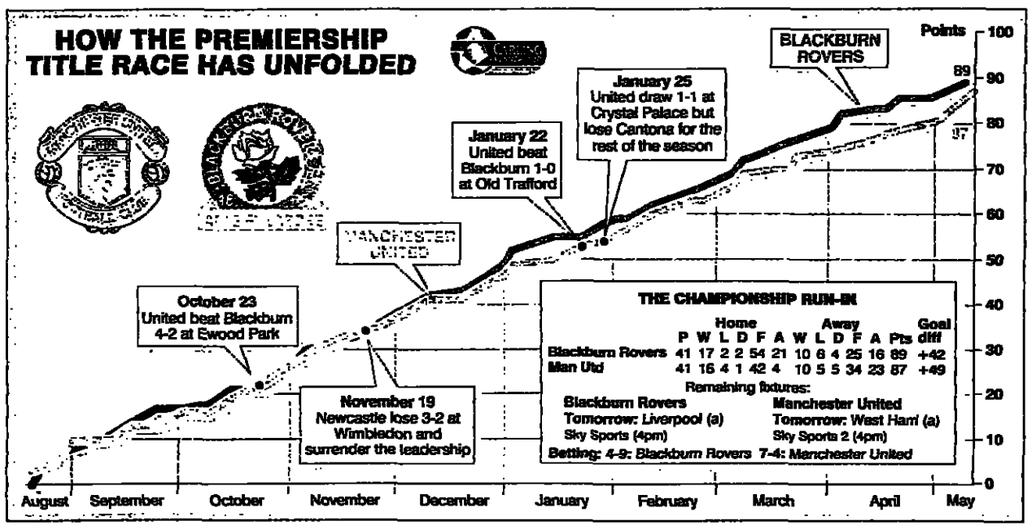
Ferguson was full of praise for the performances of his team in getting back into the race. "In the last few weeks our players have shown fantastic determination to stay in there," he said. "No matter what team I've picked, they've played fantastic football, shown great commitment and determination and I've nothing but praise for them. No matter what happens on Sunday, they've proved it is not easy to take the championship off them.

"They have grown up together as a team, and they bring it out when it is required, which they have had to do in the last few weeks. It surprises me how they have turned it round given the number changes I've had to make. It is remarkable.

"The whole squad has gone up in my estimation in the last few weeks. We know they are Manchester United players, they have the temperament, the character, the determination and the skill to play for this club."

That could not be said for the team wearing United shirts yesterday afternoon. Blackburn staff XI won 16-0, Dalglish chipping in with a hat-trick.





Jordan picks the winner in numbers game



Jordan: back to his best in number 23

Andrew Longmore on the row caused by a basketball superstar changing his jersey

The mystery has already been dubbed Numbergate and been the subject of a viewers poll on the main Chicago television station. Yesterday, the *Chicago Tribune* carried a "you dress Mike" cut-out complete with fashion accessories. When they talk of basketball being a numbers game, this was hardly what anyone had in mind.

But predictions before the third game of the Orlando-Chicago play-off series for the National Basketball Association championship had nothing to do with the final score. They concerned just one man and two numbers. Would Michael Jordan wear jersey number 23 or jersey number 45? A host of interest groups, ranging from the official NBA manufacturers and NBA officials through to sports stores, irate mothers and downcast children, waited for the revelation. Forget the lottery, these were real numbers.

To understand their significance, you have to go back to Jordan's retirement two years ago when his famed number 23 Chicago Bulls jersey was raised to the roof of the Chicago Stadium to hang as a reminder of probably the greatest basketball player who ever lived. Like Pele's 10 shirt at Santos, the number was retired and even Jordan himself refused to wear it again on his return to basketball in March after 17 months away. It was, he said, a token of respect to his late father, who had last seen him play in that number. Instead, Jordan adopted 45, the number he had worn during an unsuccessful flirtation with minor league baseball.

Move forward to the second game against the Magic, a series which pitted Jordan against Shaquille O'Neal, the Shaq, widely hyped as Jordan's natural successor. The Magic had won the first game and Jordan had flopped. "Stopping number 45 was a lot easier than stopping number 23," Magic's Nick Anderson had said afterwards, voicing the opinion of many who thought Jordan 45 was not as good as the previous vintage.

Jordan clearly agreed. Without even telling his teammates, he donned his old 23 for that second game, tongue-tying the poor announcer, sending the nation's children, dutifully clad in 45s at $37 a piece, into shock and halting production of 45s at the factory of Champion, the NBA licensees, which was at full throttle in anticipation of a merchandising bonanza. Ten thousand number 45 jerseys sold in two months in Illinois.

But the change worked. Driven by his demons, Jordan scored 38 points, the Bulls won and sports stores in Chicago sold their remaining stock of 45s to investors. Only the NBA and a few mothers, wanting to swap 45s for 23s and jamming Bulls switchboard, were not so happy.

The NBA yesterday fined the Bulls $25,000 for not notifying them of the change and issued a statement saying further punishment would follow if Jordan continued to wear 23. To add to the confusion, in a separate conflict between sport and fashion, Jordan wore white leather-and-patent trainers, prototypes for the latest Nike Air Jordans due out at Christmas ($125), instead of the black shoes worn by the rest of his team and was fined $5,000, roughly the sum Jordan banks for every five minutes on court.

Jordan has been strangely silent all week, but the odds last night were on a permanent return to 23. His people seem to want it. The tv poll favoured 23 by 72 per cent to 28 per cent. Champion have taken no chances. They are manufacturing blank red jerseys and will print the right number when Jordan has made up his mind.

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'She's Out' at the wheel of a Range Rover
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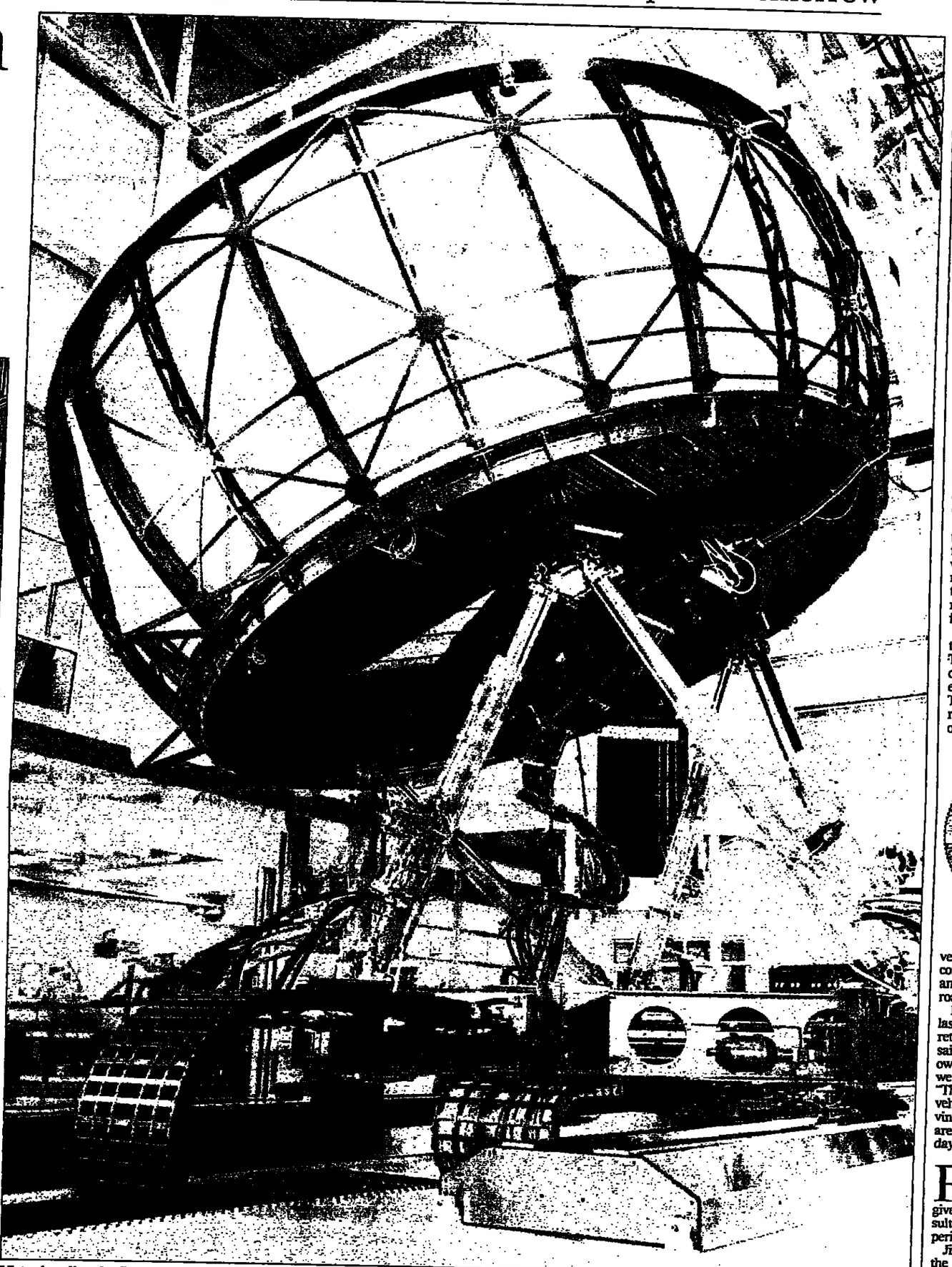
Enjoy the challenge to win a touring holiday
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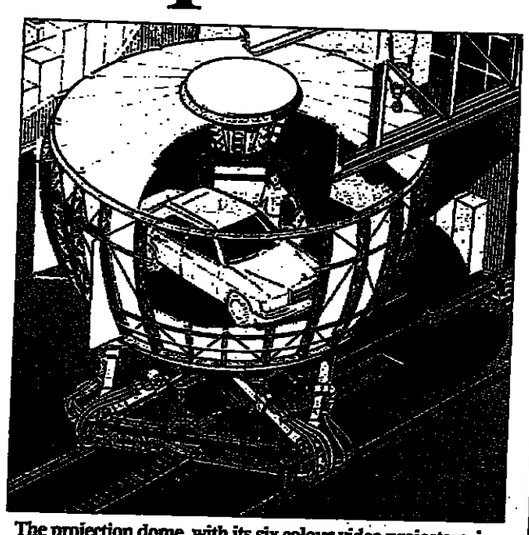
SATURDAY MAY 13 1995

Kevin Eason on a remarkable electronic brain designing the transport of tomorrow

2001 – an odyssey to the supercar



Virtual reality: the five-tonne Mercedes simulator dome, complete with electronic brain, can recreate every street scene and every kind of weather



The projection dome, with its six colour video projectors, in which car and driver motor into virtual reality

The snow was beating down on the windscreen as the car slewed from side to side until there was no escape from the inevitable crash.

The sound of splintering metal in an £80,000 car would bring even the hardiest motorist out in a cold sweat of fear. The crash, though, was not real — just a figment of a sophisticated electronic imagination. The cabin of the S-class Mercedes looked real enough, but there was no engine, no wheels and no road to drive on, only a Sega-type virtual reality display on a 180-degree television screen and a machine which acted and felt like a real car. Even the weather was thought up by computer.

The Mercedes-Benz simulator is the arcade game addict's ultimate dream, the car loaded into a "flying saucer", a five-tonne dome on stilts which can recreate every street scene down to the whoosh of wind noise over the windscreen and the howl of a January gale.

Dip the throttle and the S-class is shooting along a cobbled street, swishing past pedestrians, its wheels apparently dancing with each crevice in the road. Except the cabin of this S-class is contained inside its computerised womb, insulated from the outside world, the bumps and bangs recreated by the six hydraulic legs of the huge dome.

Each movement is calculated by an electronic brain checking the driver's actions every six milli-seconds, for the computer is not just watching the car, it is watching the driver, too. This is the modern face of Hal, the brain at the centre of the Jupiter-bound spaceship in Stanley Kubrick's *2001, A Space Odyssey*, that not only talks to machines but studies every movement and response in the driver.

Every blink of the eye is measured, every heartbeat counted, every tiny rise in blood pressure noted until the computer has built up a profile so accurate, it probably knows more about the driver than he understands about himself.

Mercedes engineers concluded that no matter how clever the automatic equipment on board a car, it was only as good as the driver. Most, for example, never press the brakes to the limit even in the direst emergency, which means they never make the best use of anti-lock brakes.

They also discovered that far from being alerted by the squeal of brakes in an emergency, the noise simply distracted drivers and slowed their reactions to a skid. Strangely, drivers reacted immediately to a gong warning that they were out of control.

> 'Every blink of the eye is measured'

The Mercedes boffins realised the reaction to the gong meant they could devise some form of early warning system that could save hundreds of drivers from crashing. As "Hal" — housed in an unprepossessing factory on the outskirts of Berlin — watched its human guinea pigs, engineers became aware that drivers suffer from three problems: they panic and oversteer when they lose control, don't brake hard enough and take too long thinking about what to do.

A loud warning signal would do more to alert drivers to danger than relying on their "feel" for the car's movement.

Even the daftest driver — doped on drink or drugs — can be checked in complete safety, able to crash a hundred times without fear of injury or damaging a luxury car.

The benefits of simulators for training pilots have long been known but their use in the motor industry is in its infancy. Dr Michael Kramer, director of Daimler-Benz research, says research institutions from around the world, including America's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, have used the simulator to study the effects of drugs, alcohol and lack of sleep on drivers.

By melding the feedback from driver reaction to its own car development programme, Mercedes can cut the time it takes to design and test components. The simulator can test equipment over a long period before the carmaker has any need to construct new parts physically. The notional design is simply tested over and again by the computer in the dome and modified if faults are detected.

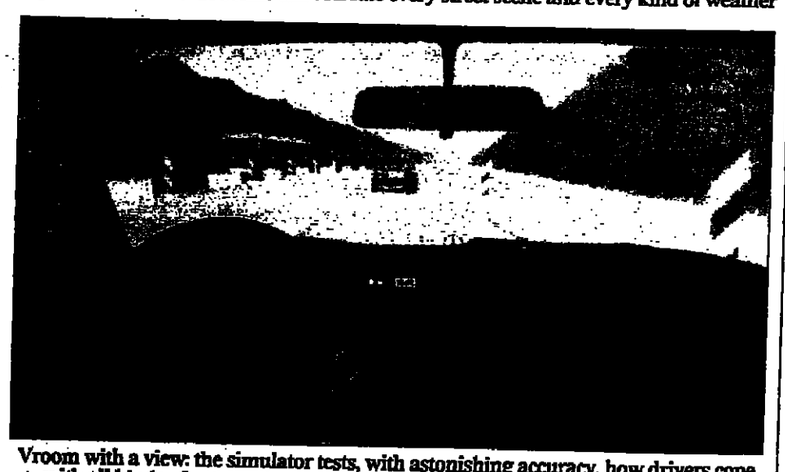
So accurate are the results that Mercedes says the simulator eliminates the need for costly prototypes and hours of laborious testing on the roads.

The rear axle of the soon-to-be-seen A-class city car was designed by computer, as well as the axles and steering for the new E-class range, which comes to Britain later this year.

This is the brave, new world of motoring design, a world far removed from the time when Karl Benz and Gottlieb Daimler, founders of the Mercedes business, bashed metal to make their first cars and engines.

The next step is to make headsets that take engineers and drivers into a computer world that allows them to sit inside a car that doesn't exist, and drive along a road that is not there to a destination dreamed up by an electronic brain. Watch this space.

Research by Hilton Holloway



Vroom with a view: the simulator tests, with astonishing accuracy, how drivers cope with all kinds of unexpected hazards, such as roadworks and narrowing lanes

'Classic' owners attack new tax threat

Enthusiasts wary of 'non-runner' pledge by DoT

Car enthusiasts have bitterly criticised as a "tax on possession" far-reaching proposals to reform road tax laws and introduce a system of continuous licensing (Vaughan Freeman writes).

The proposals were outlined in a Department of Transport discussion document aimed at stopping tax dodges which cost the Treasury about £160 million a year. Enthusiasts fear the proposals will penalise law-abiding motorists by landing them with the cost and red tape of tax enforcement.

Owners of classic and vintage cars have found support for their cause among fair-weather sports car drivers and motorcyclists, as well as motor-caravanners who use their respective modes of transport for only a few weeks each year.

The document proposes three categories of licence. These would include full-time, on-road licences similar to the existing Vehicle Excise Duty. There would also be an off-road licence available for six or 12 months, designed for



Source of the problem

vehicles likely to be out of commission for such a period, and a shorter temporary off-road licence.

In an interview with *CAR 95* last month the Transport Secretary, Dr Brian Mawhinney, said the fears of classic car owners over the proposals were unfounded. He added: "The idea of imposing full vehicle excise duty on classic, vintage or heritage cars which are only on the roads a few days a year is not a runner".

Far from being reassured, classic car enthusiasts say they have not been given adequate time for consultation. The consultation period is due to end on June 2.

Jim Whyman, secretary of the Federation of British Historic Vehicles Clubs, said: "We applaud efforts to catch the cheats but not at the expense of an innocent minority. The Government should withdraw the unfair, unwieldy, and probably unworkable proposal for continuous licensing."

Trisha Pilkington, of the Totnes Motor Museum in Devon, who runs the Tops historic racing car club, has a 500-signature petition against the proposals, which, she says, have not been properly costed. The administration charge for continuous licensing is suggested at an improbably low £5.

Regardless of what may happen in the future, classic car owners are renowned for their eye for detail. So if you want to add that authentic touch, facsimile discs are now available in the precise original colour for every year from 1921 to 1974 from Earlswood Reproductions (0173-776 4343).

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THE AA'S GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**

M1, A40 and A406: FA Cup Final at Wembley next Saturday. *Expect heavy* congestion.

A406 North Circular Rd, Upper Edmonton: width reduced on Lea Valley Viaduct until end 1995.

A219 Putney Bridge: one lane each way for repairs until June.

A41 Edgware Way, Barnet: Overnight repairs between Spur Rd and Elstree Rd South. Southbound exit slip at J4 of M1 closed 9pm-5.30am until end of June.

● **SOUTH EAST**

Berkshire: Royal Windsor Horse Show at Home Park May 10-14.

M25 Surrey J10-11 (A3/Chertsey): lane closures both directions.

M25 Surrey J7-8 (M23/Reigate): roadworks cause regular delays and affect traffic joining from M23 northbound.

M3 Surrey J4a-5 (Fleet Services-Hook): new roadworks, carriageway down to two lanes each way. Long delays expected.

A3 Guildford, Surrey: major roadworks between Stoke Interchange and Compton. Long delays expected.

M23 J9 (Gatwick) Sussex: Resurfacing May 15 to July with contraflow northbound.

● **SOUTH WEST**

M5 Avon J19-17 (Portbury-Bristol West): Contraflow.

M5 Avon J16: Southbound entry slip road closed.

M5 Glos J11-12 (Cheltenham-Gloucester): contraflow until September.

M5 J9 (Tewkesbury): Contraflow.

A40 Glos (Golden Valley Bypass): One lane each way across the M5.

A36 Somerset (A366 junction): Major roadworks.

A39 Penryn, Cornwall: Long delays . Should be avoided.

● **MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA**

M6 West Midlands J5-6 (A462-A38M): Contraflow with three narrow lanes each way and some restrictions on slip roads at J6.

A43 Silverstone, Northants: resurfacing work. Long delays expected.

A45 Stonebridge (JA452): flyover construction widening between the M42 J6 and Stonebridge Island.

● **NORTH**

M6 Lancashire J29-32 (Bamber Bridge-Broughton): Widening works with only two lanes southbound at J31 (Salmesbury).

M63 Greater Manchester J10-12 (Princess Parkway-Brinksway): No entry northbound at J11. Long delays expected at rush hour.

● **WALES**

A48 Dyfed: Contraflow in place west of J49 of the M4 (Pont Abraham), for construction.

A5 Maerdy, Clwyd (Glyn bends): Various restrictions including temporary lights at times and short term closures until end July.

A4223 Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan: A one-way system is operating on Gelliwastad Road because of widening work until the end of June.

A40 Monmouth, Gwent: Lane closures at the Gibraltar Tunnels until August for lighting work.

● **SCOTLAND**

M90 Tayside J10 (Friarton Bridge): Northbound lane closed and an overnight contraflow.

M8 Strathclyde J15-18 (Townhead-Charing Cross): Outside lane closed westbound.

M9 Lothian J2 (Newbridge): Major construction between the motorway and the Edinburgh City Bypass.

Edinburgh: Width restrictions on the High Street between North and South bridges until end of June.

A91 Kirkcaldy, Fife: Width restrictions on St Clair Street.

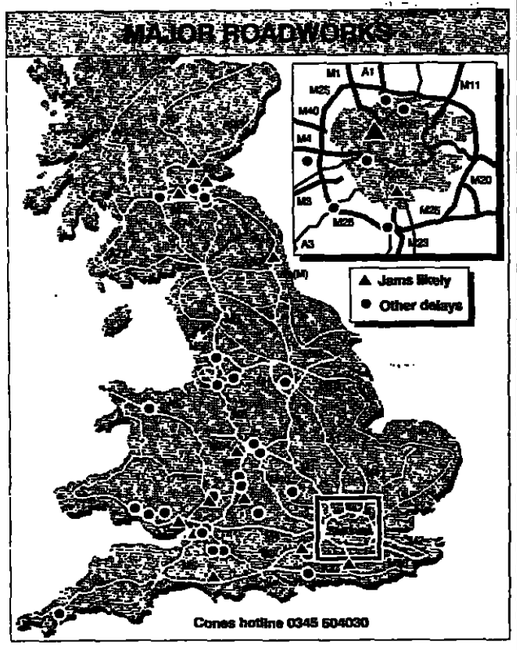
A90 Forth Road Bridge, Lothian: Overnight work with contraflow May 19-22 8pm-6am. 30mph speed limit, wide loads divert via Kincardine Bridge.

● **NORTHERN IRELAND**

M2 County Antrim: Lane closures south of Dunsilly, for resurfacing.

M22 County Antrim: Southbound diversions for resurfacing work between Ballygroobey and Dunsilly.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



NEWS SUMMARY

Vauxhall marks prices up

Vauxhall puts up prices by an average 0.8 per cent from next week as the impact of the fall in sterling on currency markets continues to hit carmakers. Corsa, Monterey and Frontera prices are unchanged but an Omega 2.0i GLS, made in Germany, which has suffered the worst of the currency changes, goes up £255 to £18,250.

Safety on the hard shoulder

Green Flag, formerly National Breakdown, is sending 1,500 breakdown operators back to school to improve their safety techniques. The organisation says 20 per cent of motorway accidents are on the hard shoulder and wants breakdown crews, and their customers, to stay safe.

Jaguar picks up speed

Jaguar celebrates 60 years in business with two new XJS models. The 4.0i coupe, with special wheels and interior trim, is £38,950, while a 2plus2 convertible will be in showrooms at £45,950. XJS sales were up 21 per cent last year and are booming, particularly in the United States.

Spanish go-ahead

Ford has spent more than £400 million on a new plant at Valencia in Spain to make engines for the company's range of small cars. The first engines will be 1.25 litres in size and probably destined for Ford's new mini-model, the Ka, which is also being built at Valencia. Twice as efficient as traditional plants, Valencia will make an extra 450,000 engines a year.

Take Friday off the road

If you are reading this from the comfort of your armchair and not a hospital bed, then you avoided the most dangerous day of the week. Churchill Insurance says Friday is when most accidents happen on the roads, accounting for 17 per cent of crashes. Sunday is the safest day. The insurer warns that tired drivers leaving work at the end of a tough week is the probable cause for Friday crashes.

Mazda cover into next century

Mazda is extending warranties to five years or 100,000 miles, the first company to do so in Britain. This means that owners of new Mazdas will be covered into the next century.

'VED is ridiculous, unfair, bureaucratic, hard to collect, and out of kilter with the Government's own policies'

Get in gear, Ken, and write off road tax

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

My colleagues who cover the Palace of Varieties, otherwise known as Parliament, reckon the Government's survival strategy rests heavily on a giveaway budget in November 1996.

However, an administration in this one's condition cannot get there from here, so to speak, therefore Kenneth Clarke will surely have to start opening the box of goodies this November. What chance of a share for the motorist?

There are 25 million cars in Britain and motorists contribute about £23 billion to the national purse each year. In exchange, total government spending on transport — buses and trains as well as roads — is less than £7 billion. So the Treasury is the daily winner of a jackpot provided by car drivers.

Apart from the tax on fuel, which amounts to 75 per cent on each litre, the Government raises about £3 billion every year from vehicle excise duty (VED), or road tax.

The petrol tax has a lot to commend it, whereas VED is ridiculous, unfair, bureaucratic, hard to collect and out of kilter with the Government's own policy on the environment, which claims to be in favour of taxing the polluter. VED taxes the owner, whether that is the little old lady doing 3,000 miles a year or the sales exec doing 60,000.

Now, as our story on page 1 reveals, the VED bureaucratic nightmare is being extended to owners of classic cars. In the late 1980s, there were signs that Whitehall had woken up, because VED did not increase. In 1993, though, it went up a massive 18 per cent, to £130. Last year it was raised again, to £135.

Evasion of VED is running at an estimated £6 million a year. In the wake of the local election debacle, there was much hand-wringing about what the Tories could do to increase their popularity. They could take note that research by the AA shows 72 per cent of motorists want VED abolished.

The AA says abolition should be gradual, with the burden switching to petrol tax so that users pay — the acid test of any tax system. A cut of 10 per cent in VED from November would need a petrol tax increase of only 2 per cent. The scrapping of VED at one fell swoop, which I favour, would raise petrol duty by 30 per cent.

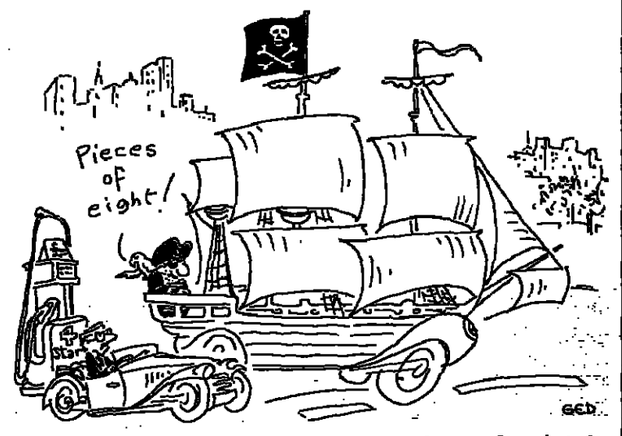
That sounds a lot but in fact the average motorist, covering 12,000 miles a year, would pay about the same in increased petrol costs as now paid in VED. However, the financial consequences of driving would be felt directly and regularly, rather than once a year in a queue at the post office.

If the Government is serious about reducing both bureaucracy and pollution, it will scrap VED and switch to raising the money in a way that is both direct and unavoidable. If it is not serious, it will not take that step. Over to you, Mr Clarke.

Not, though, without a suggestion as to a source of more revenue for the insatiable Treasury. Fellow boat-owners will doubtless stop speaking to me as of today, but fearless campaigners cannot concern themselves with that.

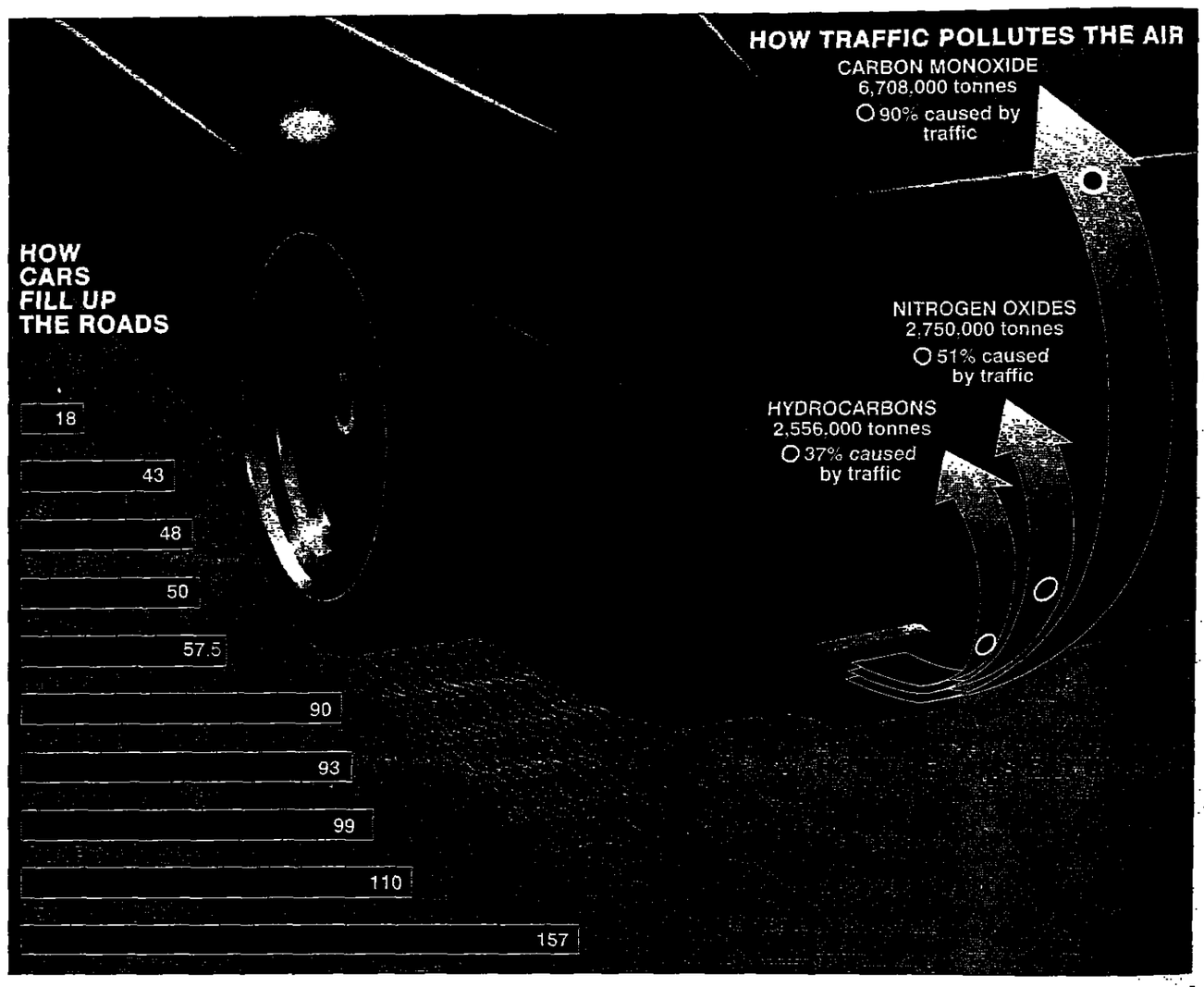
Not many people know that marine diesel fuel, which is dyed red to distinguish it from the kind used in road vehicles, sells for roughly 25 pence a litre, less than half of the cost of the road version. This harks back to sensible legislation designed to favour the shipping fleets but also applies to pleasure boats.

So car diesel at my local garage costs 54.9 pence a litre; for the boat, at a marina, it costs 25 pence a litre. Boating in Britain has accurately been described as standing in a shower tearing up £20 notes. None the less, it is impossible to justify swingeing taxes on petrol and road diesel while that for pleasure boats is, in effect, subsidised by the taxpayer.



Fresh moves for clean air

Tony Dawe on the Government's strategy to improve air quality in towns



The first step towards banning cars from busy towns on days of heavy pollution will be taken within the next couple of weeks when the Government introduces new powers into the Environment Bill currently going through Parliament.

An amendment to be proposed by Robert Atkins, the Environment Minister, will open the way for local councils to establish air-quality management areas. They will be encouraged to set air-quality targets and given powers to achieve them, including the ability to ban traffic.

The move comes after several cities, including London, Belfast and Sheffield, recorded dangerously high levels of pollutants, mostly caused by traffic, during unseasonably hot weather a week ago.

In London alone, more than 1.3 million tonnes of pollutants are released into the atmosphere each year, with 80 per cent estimated to come from motor vehicles. The pollutants include carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide, by-products from burning petrol, and unburnt hydrocarbons.

Statistics published earlier this month also showed that Britain has the most congested roads in the industrialised world, apart from Italy, a factor which increases the risk of pollution.

The creation of air-quality management areas is part of the Government's strategy for cleaner air and, in the words of John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, to "offer reassurance to all those concerned about the link between air pollution and respiratory illness".

Local councils will be required to develop a plan to reduce pollution in areas where safety levels are likely to be breached. "They will have a duty to consider the impact of industry and traffic and to take steps to control pollution from both sources," says Roger Hickman, the atmosphere and transport campaigner for Friends of the Earth, which supports the move.

"We hope they will be encouraged to create more pedestrianised streets and cycle ways and to implement traffic bans on smoggy days."

Similar schemes have been introduced in Europe, including Athens, where an experimental ban on traffic within the city centre is in force between 8am and 8pm to reduce smog and promote tourism. Only minibuses and taxis are permitted, with offenders facing a £60 on-the-spot fine.

The German federal government is also considering banning cars without catalytic converters on smoggy days, and local authorities in Bremen and Lower Saxony have ordered speed limits to be reduced in hot weather, from 130 to 90km/h on autobahns (78 to 56mph) and from 100 to 80km/h (62.5 to 50mph) on other roads.

Brian MaWhinney, the Transport Secretary, believes that the variable 50 and 60 mph speed limits now being tried out on the western sector of the M25 will also reduce pollution as well as improving safety by ensuring that traffic flows more smoothly at peak times.

> We hope they have traffic bans on smoggy days

Local authorities in London have yet to consider such draconian measures as those imposed by their counterparts in Athens and some other cities. They are, however, planning to target the worst offenders: smoky vehicles and those left with their engines running unnecessarily at the kerb.

Measures proposed in a London Bill, also going through Parliament, would give council officers the power to stop vehicles and test emissions and to issue fixed penalty notices if the emissions exceeded the limits laid down in the MoT test.

"Pollution tickets" would also be issued to drivers of stationary vehicles left with their engines on, such as coaches, taxis and lorries unloading.

"We have met resentment at the thought of council officers being given these powers, but the police lack the time and resources to carry out this role which is essential if pollution is to be reduced," says Ian Keating, of the Association of London Government.

The measures could be in force by next summer if the Bill is approved. London officials are hoping, however, to introduce them more quickly by persuading MPs to back their inclusion in the Environment Bill which could become law by the end of this year.

Motoring organisations, on the other hand, are urging MPs to oppose some of the measures, especially the right of council officials to stop vehicles. Motoring and environmental interests are equally split over solutions to congestion.

Figures produced by the British Road Federation this month showed that although Britain has fewer cars per head of the population than countries such as Germany, America and Japan, we have more cars for every mile of road than any industrialised country except Italy: 110 cars per mile compared with 99 in Germany and only 48 in the US.

Andrew Pharoah, the federation's campaign co-ordinator, says: "The main reason why our motorways and other roads are busier than most countries is that we have fewer of them. The amount of traffic is continuing to grow, yet the maintenance of the existing road network and its further development has consistently been deprived of the necessary funds to ensure a system free from expensive disruption."

Hickman argues, however, that road building only encourages people to use their cars. "We must find a way of easing congestion without increasing traffic levels, and that means traffic management schemes and, inevitably, better public transport," he says.

Living room with a lethal touch

Comfortable cars make us forget the dangers, warns **Kevin Eason**

MOTORISTS cocooned by the warmth and comfort of their cars have been warned to stop treating them like the living room and remember that they are in control of potentially lethal machines.

The RAC says modern cars are now so comfortable that motorists forget they are often driving at high speeds . . . and into danger.

The warning came after Harry Offer, a 32-year-old businessman, was jailed for three months this week for dangerous driving. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Offer was using his mobile telephone and reading a map on the steering wheel as he drove his Volkswagen Golf GTi at up to 115mph on the M5 in the West Midlands.

The RAC recommends all mobile phones in cars are "hands free" and tells drivers to plan their routes before they set off.

Edmund King, RAC campaigns manager, says: "We've all seen people doing it. Modern cars are so pleasant and welcoming, drivers settle down and relax, and forget what speeds they are doing and the fact that they are supposed to be in control. But motorists simply must not allow themselves to be lulled into a false sense of security. They might feel they are invincible sitting at the wheel, but they are not and accidents happen at those very moments when drivers are not concentrating or they are fiddling about with equipment that should not distract them."

The RAC says drivers should pull over to make a phone call or study the map. Better still, make all arrangements before you set out.

Human error is the fault in an estimated nine in ten accidents, according to the AA, high enough for drivers to need to carry out an MoT test on themselves as much as their cars.

Andrew Howard, the AA's head of road safety, says: "Motorists should routinely ask themselves questions. If a pattern emerges of careless, risky behaviour behind the wheel, drivers should reassess their attitude and look at how they can change."

THE TIMES

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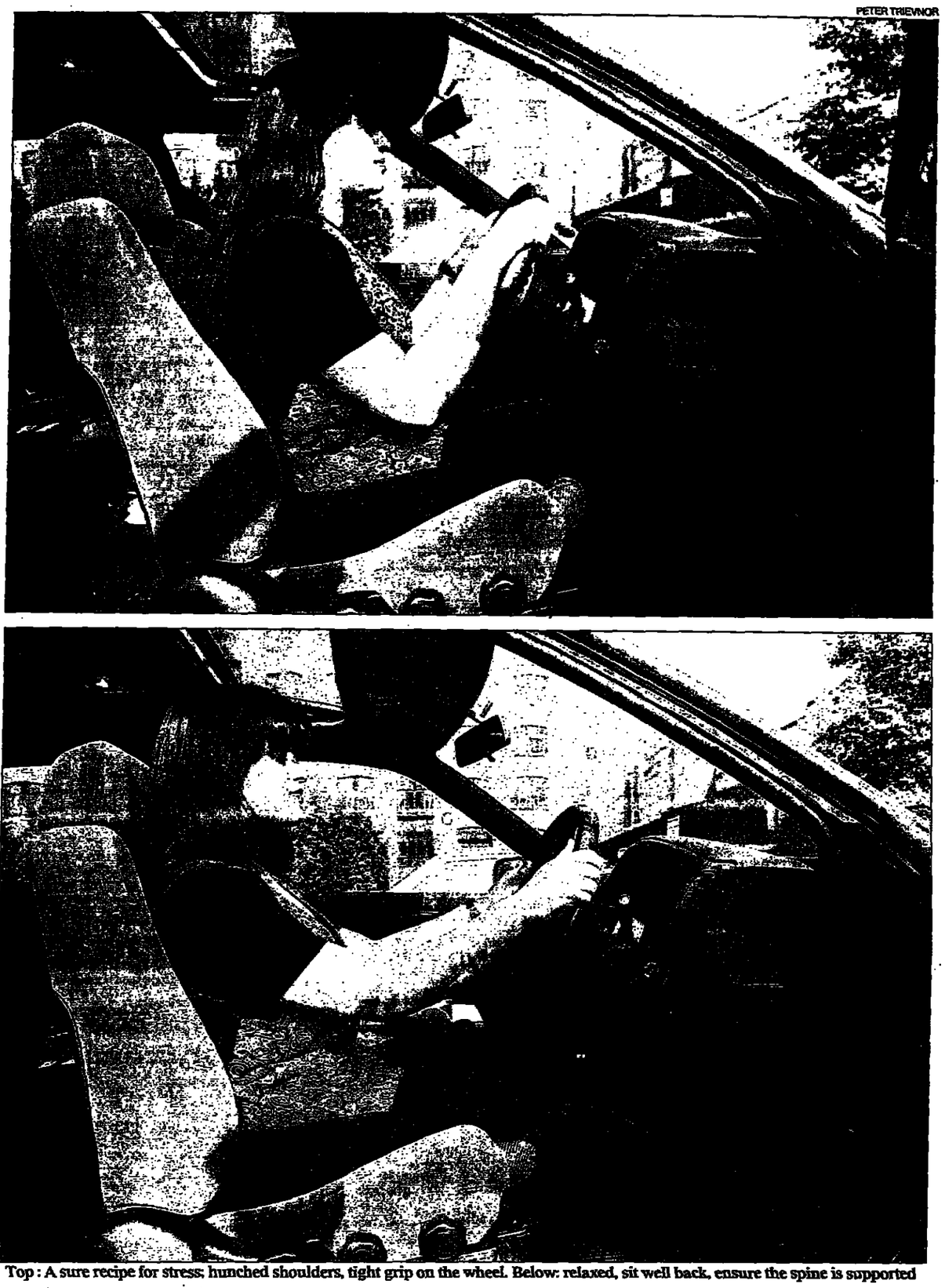


هكذا من الأصل

Ros Lewis asks you to work out your levels of driving tension and then suggests ways to relieve it

A very de-stressing experience

Sitting properly, good back support, and doing the correct exercises can help you to keep your cool in a car



PETER TRIEVNOR

Top : A sure recipe for stress: hunched shoulders, tight grip on the wheel. Below: relaxed, sit well back, ensure the spine is supported

Driving gets most of us in a stew. Being stuck in traffic jams, tailgated, cut up or driving against the clock, all these are common incidents that cause stress, and in the extreme will cause road ragers to commit violence against fellow drivers.

Under stress our heart rate increases, blood pressure rises, general senses are heightened, and oxygen is sent to our muscles to get them ready to go. Alas, as the driver still has to sit in the car all that energy and anger cannot go anywhere.

The stressed-out driver will at worst drive erratically and at best get more and more frustrated as incidents occur. Obviously, it would be a lot better for everyone if drivers could stop getting stressed in the first place.

Psychologists who have studied driving agree that driving in itself can be a stressful activity. And there are, according to Dr Ian Glendon, of Aston University, several common themes in how we experience stress whilst on the road. Weekly commuters tend to feel that driving is more stressful in the evening than in the morning, and that mid-week driving is more stressful than at the weekends.

> **Doctors agree that driving in itself can be a stressful activity**

Dr Glendon's studies have also found five factors that cause us to feel particular stress: a person's own aggressive feelings about driving; dislike of driving; heightened alertness and concentration associated with driving; tension and frustration when overtaking (both successfully and unsuccessfully); irritation when overtaken.

So given that most of us do feel stressed whilst driving, that we do react differently, and we all carry differing levels of stress anyway, what can be done to ease our minds and bodies?

First, keep a diary recording a week's driving. Rate each day for the amount of stress you felt during different times of the day, and on different days. Note what kind of events wind you up the most, how often you were in difficult situations, and how you normally handled that event. Also write down how stressed you were feeling in general, and see if that is affecting how you handle your driving.

Psychologists broadly define the stressful personality in terms of types "A" and "B". "A" tends towards aggressive, pushy, overtaking-at-all-costs behaviour; "B" is more relaxed, patient, able to take things more slowly. If you are an "A" take time to work at reducing your stress levels.

Psychologists think that just as we have our personal space zone — areas of invisible space around our bodies that we don't like being invaded — we have our own personal space requirements around our cars.

So we get mad when others are on our tail, or we are cut up by an overtaking car because our space is being invaded. To cope with these momentary stressful episodes, try mentally projecting or visualising your car space zone as a large, protective coloured bubble of light. If somebody gets too near, just imagine that they are still outside your "bubble." And if just cut up, redraw your "bubble" as awhole.

Improving your posture

Start by learning how to sit and drive with as little tension in your body as possible. Being able consciously to release the build-up of physical tension will help you deal with stress. Follow these guidelines given by the Alexander Technique, a well-known method of reducing physical tension mainly through improving posture.

Make sure you are sitting well, with a good back support. Ideally you should be able to feel your bottom supported — not sagging into a squidgy mess. Think of your back as being nice and long against the car seat.

Try keeping your neck relaxed, head poised on top of the spine. Pay attention to how you use your eyes — wrong mirror positions can cause neck tension. Also try rolling your eyes up and down and from side to side after a long stretch of driving, to relieve neck and facial tension.

Your feet and legs should not strain to reach the pedals, so adjust the seat where necessary. Knees should neither be banging against the steering wheel or too straightened out. Your thighs should be supported by the seat too.

Keep your left foot flat on the floor between gear changes — to help release the ankle joints — and try to rest the right foot as well in the same way at traffic lights.

Your hands should rest on the steering wheel, not grip it manically. Try softening the fingers so that they curl round the wheel, then making sure your arms are relaxed and your shoulders are not up to your ears.

Traffic jams

Get interested in your posture as a way of coping with traffic jams. Also, try this breathing exercise: smile, let your jaw hinge open, place the tip of the tongue at the bottom of the lower teeth, and let a whispered 'ah' sound come out. This is good for breathing and used by Alexander teachers to get people to breathe and speak more easily.

During traffic jams, gently massage your temples and eyebrows with your thumbs and fingers. If you are getting tense, try breathing deeply, and massage the back of your neck, paying particular attention to the base of the skull.

When you get the chance, stop and go for a brisk walk — exercise will defuse your stress levels. And for relaxing in-car music, try *Time to Relax* (CRS Records £6.99, W.H. Smith) or self-improvement tapes from New World Cassettes (0198 678 1682), which will transform your traffic jam time into a de-stressing experience.

Is overwork driving you to change your car far too often?

Stop raging and smile, says stress counsellor

Stressed-out motorists are chopping and changing their cars in an effort to soothe their frazzled nerves. The car-swap syndrome is a key symptom of drivers unable to cope with the pressures and tensions of their personal and professional lives, experts believe.

Behind the urge to trade in one car and get behind the wheel of yet another one, is stress. Changing one's car — like swapping hairstyles — gives those suffering from stress the illusion that they are once again in control of their runaway lives, says Duncan Christie-Miller, whose company Integrated Project Management advises clients including Renault on tackling stress at work.

Christie-Miller, former Extra Equerry to the Duke of Edinburgh and former Commanding Officer of the Royal Marines Officers' Training, where he gained invaluable experience dealing with stress, says: "Stress is not an illness in itself, but a syndrome of the illness that leads to changes in behaviour.

"The problem is in identifying the signs of stress. That is difficult, since people camouflage those symptoms because they believe stress is a sign of weakness."

Particularly for stressed male executives, one tell-tale sign is the constant browsing through car brochures in the hunt for a car to replace the vehicle that has only just arrived on their drive.

Christie-Miller says: "People are more prone to change their vehicles when they are distressed. Those facing marital problems, who are overworked, bereaved, who are under-valued, have a propensity to seek the instant gratification that a new car can bring.

"People who have problems at work, for instance with overwork, have a tendency to say they are going to change their life, and many do it by changing their car. Men under stress change their characters quite a lot. If they are unhappy they might buy a very visible symbol of male pride and virility.

"In days gone by, perhaps, people might have bought themselves a new horse to give themselves that feeling of power and relief. Today, the pleasure that a new car brings does not last that long. To solve the problem of stress more radical changes in total life-style are needed."

As well as making motoring a very expensive pastime, stress also accounts for about 40 million lost working days every year. Christie-Miller advises those suffering from stress and its symptoms to organise their time more efficiently, exercise in a non-competitive way three times a week, and not to rage at other motorists out on the road.

Rather than shouting and gesticulating at the infuriating antics of other road-users, he recommends a simple smile: "It really does work and achieves instant results."

VAUGHAN FREEMAN

NEWS SUMMARY

Cheap and filling

Southend-on-Sea is the cheapest fuel-stop in Britain, according to PHH Allstar. The company checked transactions by 500,000 drivers to discover that the Essex seaside town offered unleaded and four-star petrol 12p below the national average of £2.44 and £2.69. Diesel was also 15p cheaper at £2.31. Dover remains most expensive for four-star and unleaded.

Daewoo takes the lead

Daewoo, the ambitious South Korean carmaker, shot into the sales charts in its first month in Britain with 1,503 sales, 1.08 per cent of the industry's April registrations, ahead of Mazda, Mitsubishi, Proton and Seat among others.

Meals instead of wheels

Citroën has turned one of its old factories into a theme restaurant (00 31 45 57 89 14) next to the Parc André Citroën, named after the company founder.

Renault adds extras

Renault has poured features into the Clio Champs Elysees special edition, which gets a 60-watt hi-fi with compact disc player, alloy wheels and the offer of zero per cent finance, all for £9,790 (three-door) and £10,195 (five-door).

Sales on track

Jonathan Palmer, former McLaren-Honda test driver and the voice of motor racing on BBC, has been hired to take would-be buyers of Honda's 170mph NSX sports car on white-knuckle rides around the Bruntingthorpe circuit in Leicestershire to promote lagging sales of the NSX.

New addition

Cliff Richard, evergreen entertainer, has invested in a £19,000 Renault Espace RT turbo-diesel. The people-carrier joins a Rolls-Royce, Range Rover and a Mercedes SL sports (registration MOVE IT) in the Bachelor Boy's fleet.

On yer bike

Live like a Royal for a day — at up to £80 an hour — with a chauffeur-driven car from Jack Barclay, the world's biggest Rolls-Royce dealer. Unfortunately, there is also a £2-a-mile charge too. Never mind, back to the bike.

The car equivalent of a jumble sale, the autojumble, is on this weekend

Everything but the car boot

If you have been searching for a missing hubcap, hankering after a chrome mascot or desperate for a manual to service your prized classic, this could be the weekend you strike lucky.

For today and tomorrow, the grounds of the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu, Hampshire, will be filled with more than 750 stands selling just about every conceivable car part, from ashtrays to cylinder blocks and probably a number of unrecognisable relics, too.

The Spring Classic Autojumble marks the start of the classic car season, when cherished vehicles are taken out of winter storage, spruced up and readied for another summer on the open road. It is an ideal opportunity for the owner who wants to buy their much-loved motor a little something extra.

The stallholders are an extraordinary bunch known as "autojumblers". "Some are real characters. The only trouble is they will never admit to having a good day. When we go round and ask how they got on they always just say 'OK'. But they nearly always come back," Lesley Ann Harnett, of Beaulieu, says.

"We will have lots of traditional junk. I hate to call it junk because to somebody else it's treasure." Where these characters get their stock is frequently a closely guarded secret. There are obviously still a surprising number of ill-considered trifles lurking in garages and scrapyards around Britain.



Autojumblers: A breed apart who keep sources secret

This year's autojumble will have a number of other features. On Saturday evening there is a Christie's auction of collectors' cars featuring a rather special Renault. The 1906 20/30hp limousine was the first car bought by Lord Montagu when he founded the museum in 1953. Owned until then by the Christian family from nearby Otterbourne in Hampshire, its towering coachwork made it too tall for exhibition inside Beaulieu and it was kept in the estate yard in the village and brought to the museum for display on fine days. Its unusual coachwork was built to its original owner's design to accommodate his habit of driving in a top hat. The interior is modelled on that of a first-class French railway carriage.

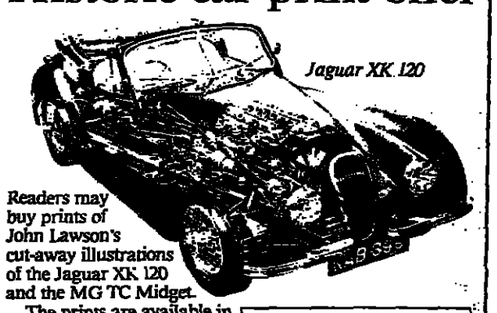
Lord Montagu says: "The decision to part with the car has not been taken lightly. Recently, the National Motor Museum has received the bequest of an almost identical 14hp Renault Landaulette that was made for Queen Alexandra and was later used by King George V. Due to a shortage of space, both cars cannot be kept and displayed at the museum."

Admission to the sale is strictly by catalogue. Admission to the rest of the autojumble goes along with admission to the museum and Palace House. It is billed as Britain's "second largest autojumble" and is expected to attract more than 15,000 visitors — the largest is the International Autojumble also held at Beaulieu in September, which features more than 2,000 stalls and brings in more than 40,000 visitors.

ALAN COPPS

THE TIMES

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An exhibition of all 12 cars featured by Lord Montagu and sponsored by *Car '95* is running until the end of September at the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu. Present this panel at the gate and one adult will get a £2 reduction on the full admission price. The museum is also hosting a two-day spring classic autojumble today and tomorrow. For further details call 01590 612345.

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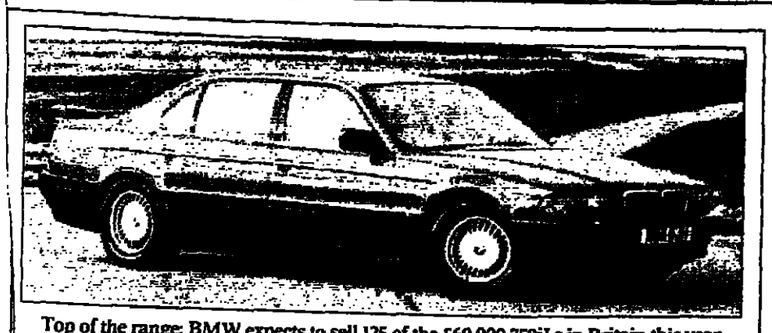
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Top of the range: BMW expects to sell 125 of the £69,000 750iLs in Britain this year

Luxury market gets a new lease of life

Rumours of the death of the luxury car are premature. It has been diagnosed fit, well and with a life expectancy well into the next century, at least by BMW, which expects to take 125 British orders, worth £9 million, for its range-topping 750iL this year. The company is confident it will sell even more of the 5.4-litre V12s in this country next year (Anthony Lewis writes).

Demand for luxury cars — and BMW counts its competitors in this class as Jaguar, Mercedes-Benz and even Bentley — peaked at 18,000 in 1988, and has since declined by half. However, sales in the sector this year are already up by 40 per cent, thanks largely to Jaguar's revitalised XJ series, but with BMW holding a firm second place.

It's a rarefied world of motoring, and if you've ever wondered what life at the top is like, I can tell you that it's really rather pleasant.

The extra five-and-a-half inches in length which the 750iL boasts over the standard 7-series are only really apparent when you open the larger rear doors, to be greeted by acres of plush carpet, leather and leg space.

The rear seats are electrically adjustable and heated; there are blinds on the rear window (electric, of course) and on the side windows, which are double-glazed for extra quietness.

As you would expect from BMW, the car is a technological tour de force, boasting more computer power than it probably took to fly man to the moon. The automatic air-conditioning can be pre-set to turn itself on to ventilate the car twice a day, so you can step from home or office and slip into something cool or warm, depending on the season.



News on the move: the on-board TV system

There is a liquid crystal display television screen which doubles up as the on-board monitor, navigation system (due in Britain next year and already live in Germany), and fine tuning for the 14-speaker 400-watt hi-fi system.

There's a built-in digital telephone that works throughout Europe and has a 145-number memory. The television, which will not work when the car is moving for obvious safety reasons, also has access to televised news services, so senior executives on the move need never be out of touch with stock market prices, news or even the weather.

When you've played with all the toys you can go for a drive and enjoy the 326bhp available from the 5.4-litre V12 engine, even on wet mountain roads, thanks to the latest generation anti-skid system that prevents understeer or oversteer by limiting power output, even applying brakes to individual wheels if necessary to help keep you on the straight and narrow.

The 750iL is uncannily quiet and eerily quick. There were moments when I wished I could have heard the glorious roar of the V12 more clearly. The five-speed automatic gearbox adapts itself to individual driving styles, and you only need to turn the key briefly to the start position to activate the electronics which will then start the engine automatically.

While life at the top might be tough, it obviously has its compensations. Put the chauffeur on half pay and enjoy not just the luxury and comfort but the sheer dynamic brilliance of BMW's finest.

The 750iL costs £69,450: a standard wheelbase 750i is £64,450. For £54,000, there's a long wheelbase 740iL using a 4.0-litre V8 engine with a reduced specification.

Hilton Holloway on why there is such demand for BMW's mould-breaking Compact

Hatch open to a lucky few

I have just spent a week in what I think is Britain's most exclusive car. An Aston Martin, a Ferrari, the mythical McLaren F1? No — a BMW; and what's more, the company's cheapest model, yours for as little as £13,650.

Or at least it would be, if you could find one for sale. The BMW Compact, launched here last October, is probably the nation's most sought-after new car. Stride into a dealer and slap down the cash and it's unlikely he'd be able to deal. The waiting list currently runs into the autumn, and rumours abound in the trade of hefty premiums being paid on second-hand Compacts, especially the up-market 318Ti.

So what's all the fuss about? Well, the Compact is basically a shortened (by 9in) 3-series saloon, given three doors, a handy hatchback and, thanks to the unchanged wheelbase, the same amount of interior space. It's also the first BMW hatch since the short-lived 2002 Touring of the mid-1970s and the only rear-wheel drive hatchback on the market.

The Compact delivers what hasn't been around for a few years: practical prestige. Since the demise of the lithe Mk2 Golf and the coolly understated old-shape BMW 3-series, the one-time yuppie car has all but disappeared, rather like the yuppie. However, in tune with the young and upwardly mobile of the 1990s, the Compact is utterly discreet. It's also sensibly (though modestly) powered, beautifully made and all the contemporary safety and environmental accoutrements are standard (airbag, ABS, side impact bars, immobiliser). Furthermore, because it's not a "hot hatch", the insurance grouping is a manageable 10.

Oddly, the public and the mainstream motoring press are at odds over the desirability of the Compact. After trumpeting its arrival, enthusiast hacks have become rather sniffy about the cut-down Beamer, partly because they felt it was a compromise version of the bigger saloon. So who's right? Has the public been sold a glossy dummy or is the Compact the definitive car for the '90s, as sales on the Continent would suggest? I borrowed a basic 316i to find out.

I loved it, and everybody who encountered the Compact fell for its discreet charm. Its main advantage over the opposition is that it is a less expensive version of an upmarket range; rivals tend to be dressed-up versions of budget cars. Consequently, the Compact possesses a superbly weighted quality feel that nothing else can touch at this price. Everything from the beautifully designed steering wheel to the engine bay layout shouts class. True, the truncated rear can look a little odd, but it does house a useful-sized boot without encroaching on passenger space at the back.

Fit and finish is immaculate, as is the design philosophy. The new dashboard is a lesson in crisp logic.

Corner cutting? Well, the push-pull light switches look and feel out of place, but aside from that, the Compact makes the inside of other hatches look either hopelessly dated or gimmicky. In and out of town, it was hard to criticise the car. Those crucial 9in off the tail make squeezing into supermini-sized parking spaces that much easier and it looks so appealing amid the ranks of everyday hatches. This is a shopping trolley with presence. On the motorway, it was far fleeter than the modest 102bhp might suggest, the Autobahn-bred high speed cruising ability shining through.

> 'I love it. It's very subtle. I want one — now'

Roger Sedgwick-Rough, an enthusiast with a taste for German exotica, gave the Compact a thumbs-up after warming up in his 1973 Porsche 911 RS. "It's a lovely car. It feels so solid and handles beautifully. It's going to be a winner."

The BMW wasn't even shamed by his Audi S2 estate in terms of perceived quality. Roger's Golf-owning and hard-driving niece, Claudia, was bowled over. "I love it: the sound of the engine, the solidity and the room and comfort in the back. It's very subtle and doesn't say 'I'm flash'. I want one — now."

Just 5,000 Compacts, which come with a three-year warranty, will be imported this year, and the car is likely to hold its value better than any other on the UK market. In three years time, sold privately, you could get as much as 89 per cent of your money back, according to one trade magazine. A mainstream hot hatch is unlikely to retain more than 50 per cent.



HILTON HOLLOWAY

"It's a winner": Roger Sedgwick-Rough, who normally drives a Porsche RS or Audi S2, was won over by the BMW

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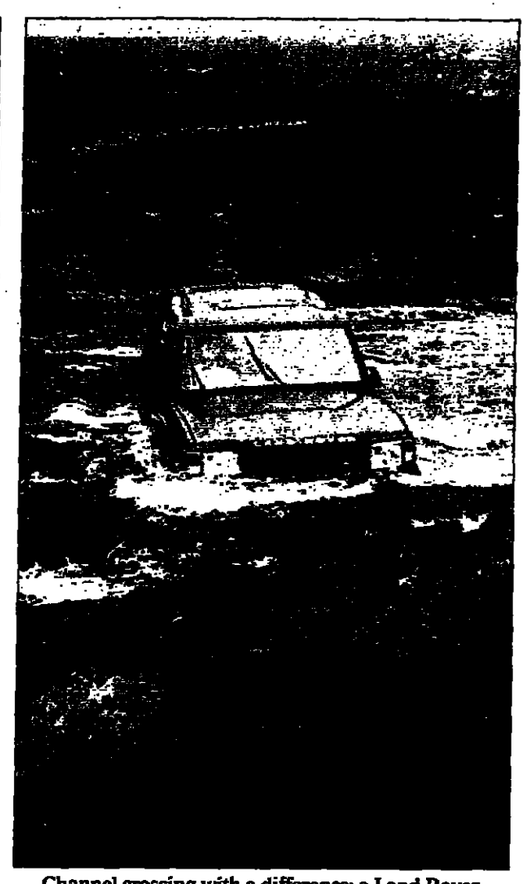
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94 M (95Mdl) V8i S, Plymouth Blue 15T £18,950
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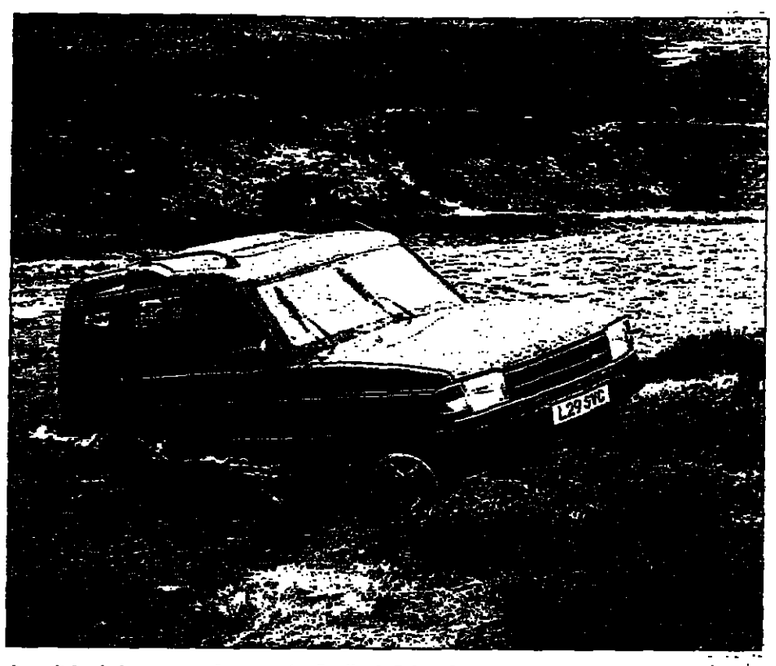
Vaughan Freeman samples one of Land Rover's off-the-wall holidays for serious off-roaders

Swap sun and sea for mud and mire





Channel crossing with a difference: a Land Rover battles along the tough "Scottish Adventure" route



So you want a holiday with a difference? How about a few days slurping through mud, wading through raging rivers and hauling bogged-down vehicles out of the mire? That is the latest offer from Land Rover.

The off-road specialist is confident such tough-guy vacations will prove a success with cosseted customers willing to pay £40,000 and more for the ultimate in air-conditioned, fully automatic, four-wheel-drive luxury.

As well as the Scotland trek, a holiday across the Hannibal Trail, over which the great Carthaginian general once led his elephants, and which leads off the skiing slopes of Val d'Isère in France, is being organised. Also, this summer the first Land Rover Safaris begin through Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

One of the holidays being developed will entail Range Rover, Discovery and Defender owners battling their way across the network of 18th-century military Wade Roads that criss-cross Scotland.

The "Scottish Adventure" will enable Land Rover owners to drive through countryside inhabited only by deer, rabbits and ramblers on the 143,000-acre Blair Castle Estate, an hour's drive north of Edinburgh, and home and fortress of the Earls and Dukes of Atholl for seven centuries.

The estate is criss-crossed by the road network devised by General George Wade to allow troops to travel quickly during the Jacobite rising. Today the roads are barely discernible, covered in moss and mud, and follow terrain that is totally inaccessible to ordinary cars.

A trial trek along the route reveals that mud slopes of one-in-three are common, as are stretches of ankle-deep mired peat and rivers in full spate. Most of the day was spent driving so slowly between boulders and over deep mud craters that the speedometer hardly flickered. At the convoy's head, Roger Crathorne, Land Rover's product training manager, walked on to see whether the route was driveable. By the end of the day, every vehicle had got bogged down at some stage and had needed towing out.

Mr Crathorne said: "We wanted to find a place where people had not driven for many years, to demonstrate what can be done in our vehicles. When driving off-road in these arduous and constantly changing conditions, it is vital to ensure that the rules, and well-proven techniques and skills, are followed. Speed is to be avoided. We know our techniques work — that is why we have been given special permission to use the military and estate areas of Blair Castle."

Though the going may be tough during the day, at night adventurers on the French and Scottish holidays will enjoy five-star accommodation on a par with the exclusive Victoria Falls Hotel and the secluded Tongabezi riverside lodge which feature in the itinerary of the Land Rover Africa Safari holidays.

Prices for the holidays in France and Scotland have yet to be finalised. Prices for the African Safari, run in association with holiday specialists Abercrombie and Kent and with a maximum of only three vehicles on each nine-day trip, range from £2,700 for the Defender Safari in Zambia to £5,107 for the Range Rover Safari in Botswana.

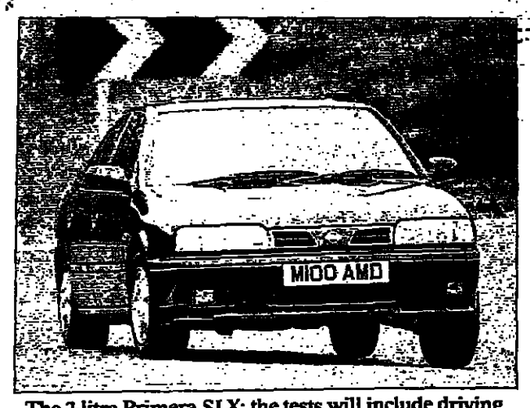
Discounts will be available to Land Rover owners, with the Botswana safari only open to existing owners.

To reassure those tempted to sign up, would-be adventurers will be offered training in serious off-road driving, and all holiday convoys will be accompanied by experts in four-wheel-drive motoring. Training will be on the 5,000-acre Eastnor Castle estate near Ledbury in Herefordshire, and vehicles for the holidays and tuition will be supplied by Land Rover.

Company spokesman Colin Walkey said: "Today the car is very much part of the owner's lifestyle and we are selling that whole package. We recognised from past events we have organised that we were giving people the sort of adventure that money couldn't buy. From that was born the idea of us as a car company going into the holiday business."

Land Rover Safari desk: 0171-730 9600

Prove your prowess in good company



The 2-litre Primera SLX: the tests will include driving the car at speed, through cones, and through a skid

It is frustrating, frightening and infuriating — but still fun to try to complete the tests in our search for the Company Car Driver of the Year.

We need 120 teams to do battle for the honour of one of motoring's most prestigious titles. Although the tests will be tough, they will also be rewarding, and drivers will discover they can have a good time at the wheel even when stress levels soar.

Drive Tech, one of Britain's top driver training schools, will check the skills of our entrants, while Nissan is providing a fleet of 2-litre Primeras for the tests.

While roadcraft will be a premium skill, it is not the only test drivers face at the regional heats. Their judgment will also be put under the microscope. Drivers have to guide a Primera, fitted with a large saucer on its bonnet in which there is a ball, through a maze of cones: the art is to keep the ball in the saucer and still negotiate the course against the clock. It is like being released into a fairground arcade game ... but this game uses real cars and racks up points which could be vital to getting through the heat and into the final of our contest, sponsored jointly by *The Times* and Lease Plan, Britain's leading fleet management company.

Drive your way to a free holiday for two in Europe

Chris Howell, Drive Tech's founder, says: "The level of concentration among drivers in this test last year was wonderful. They were all treating it as seriously as Nigel Mansell driving at Monaco and having a tremendous amount of fun."

For many, driving the £15,000 Nissan Primera SLX will be part of the treat, for the British-built model has won an enviable reputation around Europe as one of the best cars in its sector, its 2-litre power pack capable of pushing the car to a top speed of 127mph.

However, there is plenty of comfort, too, particularly for drivers who will be expected to cover a tough road course under the watchful gaze of Drive Tech's highly qualified examiners. At the end, they will be given a report on how they performed so they can improve their driving skills.

THE TIMES Lease Plan Company Car Driver 1995

There is more to come for the drivers good enough to qualify for the final at Silverstone, home of the British Grand Prix. They will be driving the Primeras on the famous track at high speeds on manouevring courses, as well as covering roads with examiners.

They will be expected to be able to negotiate hazards at high speed and cope with a skid, all watched by John Watson, the former McLaren Formula One racer, whose Silverstone Driving Centre will be carrying out the exacting tests.

For the winner, the prize is an expenses-paid touring holiday for two in Europe in a car provided by Lease Plan, plus £500 in spending money. The winning company will also get free training for a dozen of its drivers.

Entrants already range from a team of paramedics to workers from Ericsson, one of the top mobile telephone companies. Six regional centres have been chosen (see left), so there will be a heat near you.

We are delaying the closing date by a week because of demand. So enter now.

THE TIMES

LEASE PLAN COMPANY CAR DRIVER 1995

Company .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

..... Position .....

Entrant .....

Entrant should be the director/senior manager responsible for your company's car fleet.

Tel No ..... Fax No .....

Nature of Business .....

No of employees ..... No of company cars .....

Nominated drivers

Surname.....Age..... Surname.....Age.....

Forename(s)..... Forename(s).....

Job title ..... Job title .....

How long employed ..... yrs Points on licence ..... How long employed .... yrs Points on licence .....

Surname.....Age..... Surname.....Age.....

Forename(s)..... Forename(s).....

Job title ..... Job title .....

How long employed ..... yrs Points on licence ..... How long employed .... yrs Points on licence .....

Please select one first and one second choice for the location and date of your team's regional heat (indicate your selection by placing a 1 or 2 within box):

Oxford, (Moat House), 8th June ☐ Ware, Hertfordshire, (Briggens House Hotel) 12th July ☐

Nottingham, (Moat House), 14th June ☐ Glasgow, (Moat House International), 22nd June ☐

Hereford, (Moat House), 28th June ☐ Blackburn, (Moat House), 4th July ☐

Please ensure that you and your nominated drivers are available on both your first and second choice and for the final at Silverstone on Friday, 11th August. Initial qualification will be by telephone questionnaire. Entrants and drivers will be contacted on an individual basis.

Send completed entries by 24 May, 1995 to: The Times - Lease Plan Company Car Driver 1995, Leeder PR, 52-54 Broadwick Street, London W1V 1FF

COMPETITION RULES

The closing date for entries is 24 May 1995. Drivers must be over 24 years of age to enter. Maximum number of endorsements on any competitors' driving licence is three points. Drivers must bring their current driving licence to their regional heat for confirmation of the above. Drivers must be nominated by the director or senior manager responsible for the company car fleet. Drivers must be nominated in groups of three. Companies can only enter one team to compete. The entrant may nominate him/herself as part of the team. Competitors must drive a company car or vehicle as part of their employment or remuneration package. Qualification for the team/company award will be dependant on a written test, to be completed by the entrant at their team's regional heat. Employees of Lease Plan, DriveTech, Nissan, News International and the Birkdale Group are not permitted to enter. In the spirit of the event, specialist organisations such as driver training companies, police, the armed forces and the like may not be permitted to enter. A place in the regional heats will be confirmed by post, at least ten days prior to the heat. In the event of over subscription, qualification to the regional heats will be judged through a driver telephone questionnaire. If the team does not qualify for the regional heat, the entrant will be informed in writing prior to the first heat and the team will be placed on a reserve list. Feedback on each driver's performance will be available after the competition. The reserve driver will be called upon at the regional heat should one of the first three drivers be unable to compete. In the event of a finalist not being able to attend, the next highest scoring driver from that regional heat will be invited to attend in their place. The prize for the winner will be a seven day European motoring holiday for two. The team/company prize will be a driver programme for twelve employees. Cash alternatives are not available. The judges's decision is final.

Alan Copps on a wheelchair that is also a car seat

Boon for disabled drivers

A WHEELCHAIR that converts into the front seat of a production saloon is among the innovations which will be on show this weekend at the Mobility Roadshow Exhibition.

The show takes place at the Transport Research Laboratory in Crowthorne, Berkshire, together with several other automotive events including, by way of contrast, a gathering of VW Golf GTi enthusiasts.

The CarChair, made by the Sussex-based firm Constables, converts to either the driver's or front passenger seat. The makers say it offers disabled drivers total freedom of mobility by enabling them to get themselves in and out of a vehicle without having to leave their wheelchair.

A lifting post is located on the inside of the door of a converted car, and the wheelchair user reverses the specially-designed seat alongside it. Using a simple hand-held control, the disabled driver can then use the post to raise the CarChair off the ground, turn it around and lower it into the well of the vehicle. This saves the driver or passenger having to exchange seats and avoids the undignified business of being manhandled into position.

There is an optional gadget which, at the touch of a button, will retract the wheels of the chair before it is lowered into the car. The system has been crash-tested in the United States and the company claims that its sophisticated ergonomic design offers exceptional comfort.

Constables Ltd, Mountney Bridge Business Park, Westham, Pevensey, East Sussex BN24 5NH. 01323 767574.

THE TIMES

TRAVEL OFFER



Le Mans



Rouen

LE MANS 24 HOUR MOTOR RACE

Departing Friday 16 June 1995

3 NIGHTS FOR £139

Le Mans motor race has everything for the enthusiast, as well as for those who simply want to experience this prestigious event.

The fastest cars in motor racing compete on June 17 and 18, in this ferocious 24 hours contest. You can experience the sensational spectacle as they race against one another at more than 200 miles per hour, battling for pride of place on the winners' rostrum.

A virtual town is built around the race circuit, and contributes a superb carnival atmosphere with an abundance of restaurants, food stalls and bars; along with a wide variety of shops and huge fun fair complex.

Our weekend offers you luxury coach travel to and from central London, return ferry crossing from Dover to Calais, one night's accommodation in a twin-bedded room with continental breakfast at a 3-star hotel in Rouen, general admission to Le Mans circuit, coach comfort facilities during the time spent at the race and services of a tour manager.

Not included in the price of £139 is insurance of £9.90 and all meals, with the exception of breakfast in Rouen.

For more information, simply complete and post the coupon or telephone our reservation staff on 01580 715222.

ITINERARY

Friday, 16 June:
Depart Central London by luxury coach at approximately 9.30 a.m. for Dover - Calais ferry crossing. Arrive Rouen late afternoon for overnight stay.

Saturday, 17 June:
Depart Rouen for onward journey to Le Mans, arriving in plenty of time for the 4.00 p.m. race start. The coach remains at the circuit for your use during the 24 hour race.

Sunday, 18 June:
Following the race, drive back to Rouen for a meal stop before travelling on to Calais for a late night ferry.

Monday, 19 June:
Arrive Central London at approximately 7.00 a.m.

To: Le Mans 1995, c/o Mercury Motor Racing, The Hill, Cranbrook, Kent. TN17 3ST.

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ATOL 1631

This holiday is operated by Mercury Motor Racing, a trading name of Sunspot Tours Ltd., a company independent of Times Newspapers.

CAR ... TOONS



GED MELLING

Hi-tech systems are being needlessly replaced at high cost, reports **Vaughan Freeman**

Garages in computer 'con'

Garages have been accused of "blinding motorists with science" and overcharging them by hundreds of pounds to replace needlessly or repair parts, especially computer components.

The claim, by company car firm Fleet Management Services, comes as the AA reveals that poor workmanship by garages is the biggest worry for motorists, accounting for 40 per cent of all complaints to the AA's technical advice department. That is more than twice the number of complaints for the next biggest concern for drivers — garage overcharging.

Derick Perkins, maintenance control director at Fleet Management Services, says many garages are not spending enough on training. "Courses are available on auto electronic diagnostic skills from the manufacturers, but these are not being taken up in great numbers," he said. "Garages are continuing to keep training as a low priority — a habit learned during the recession — and prefer to replace an on-board computer rather than educate staff on how to diagnose the fault.

"The upshot is that the motorist has to pay for the mechanic's ignorance of automotive electronics. Bills range from £60 to £300 for the replacement of an electronic ignition system, to £800 for a fuel injection computer, or well over £1,000 for an engine control unit.

"Considering the investment main dealers make in providing specialist test equipment, it is disappointing that often they train only one person to operate that equipment."

The concern goes beyond electronic and computer-related repairs. The AA's Consumer Protection for Motorists report, published in association with the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, says: "There is a small minority of garages which, because of shoddy workmanship and deceitful practices, gives the trade a bad name.

"Implicit in many of the comments made by chief trading standards officers is the feeling that motorists may have of losing control as they hand over the keys. Increasingly, consumers are suspecting, car servicing is not being carried out correctly. In particular, they suspect dishonesty in overstating repair work that needs to be done.

"There has probably been an increase in complaints about the fitting of unnecessary parts at service depots. The norm seems to be that a fitter, while renewing an exhaust or fitting a new tyre, will report that the shock absorbers need replacing."

Retail Motor Industry Federation

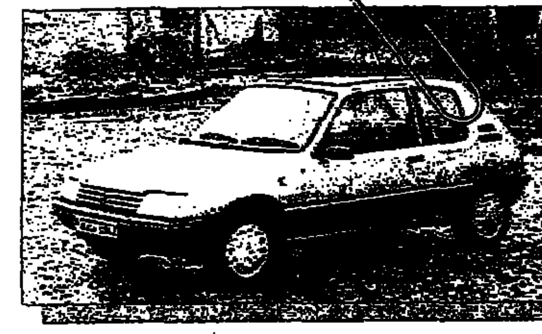
To reassure motorists and members, the AA has just announced a radical shake-up of its system for approving and vetting garages. Under its new Approved Garage scheme, premises will be vetted twice a year to ensure the highest standards of service at the fairest price.

Chris Warwick, AA technical services manager, said: "Each garage outlet will be inspected and assessed on its own merits; which means there will be no blanket approval for chains."

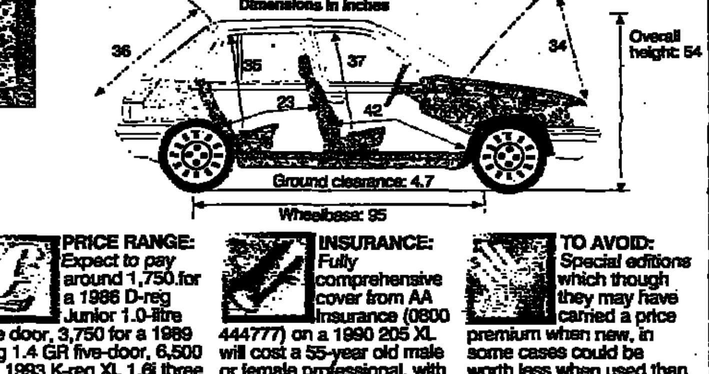
The Retail Motor Industry Federation has 12,500 members, who are checked regularly. Spokeswoman Sue Robinson says: "By using a garage that is an RMIF member, motorists can, if there is a problem, approach our national conciliation service for negotiated redress.

"RMIF members have to meet standards set by us, and abide by our code of practice and our quality control. From the consumers' point of view, it is clearly in their interests to use an RMIF garage to reduce the chance of problems in the first place, and give them a come-back should there be any disagreements."

USED CAR BRIEF



PEUGEOT 205
More than 11 years after the Peugeot 205 was introduced, the car still looks modern and full of zest. Its style and design has had a clear influence on rival models, as well as on its Peugeot 106 and 306 successors. Launched in five-door form originally with 1.0, 1.1, 1.4, and 1.6-litre petrol engines, as well as a 1.8-litre diesel. The three-door XE, XL and XR models first arrived in 1985, and in January 1987 came the 130bhp, 1.9-litre GTi, a car with demon performance and now much sought after. Cosmetic changes introduced in 1990 included new bumpers and rear panels.



GOOD NEWS: Considered one of the best small cars ever. A stylish car with a wide range of engines, and a reputation as being fun to drive. Used values hold up well and the 1.8-litre diesel in particular "runs for ever".

BAD NEWS: The sporting reputation of the GTi and its storming performance means such cars must be checked carefully for crash damage. Also make sure insurance premiums are not prohibitively high.

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay around 1,750 for a 1986 D-reg Junior 1.0-litre three door, 3,750 for a 1989 F-reg 1.4 GR five-door, 6,500 for a 1993 K-reg XL 1.6i three door, and 5,500 for a 1991 J-reg GTi.

INSURANCE: Fully comprehensive cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1990 205 XL will cost a 55-year old male or female professional, with full no claims bonus, living in Winchester, £99 a year. A 22-year old male with one year no claims living in South London will pay £762, and a similar 22-year old female will pay £695.

TO AVOID: Special editions which though they may have carried a price premium when new, in some cases could be worth less when used than the equivalent basic model. Under-powered 1.0, and 1.1-litre cars, pre-1988 models with disintegrating trim. Double-check spare wheel which is suspended beneath boot and vulnerable to thieves.

LOOK FOR: Eye-catching Roland Garros special edition three-door and cabriolet models. These might cost between £250 and £350 more than the standard 1.4litre car, but dark green metallic paint, low profile tyres and sports seats with leather trim, plus luxury specification make it much desired.

OVERALL: An annoying hot-start problem on the fuel injection models has done little to tarnish the strong reputation of the 205 as an excellent town car, with room for four, and ride, handling, and looks, that are superior to the norm.

SAFETY RATING: In its mini and supermini class the 205 is one of only three cars (the others are the Renault 5 and the Yugo), to score significantly above the category average for safety according to Department of Transport figures.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices include VAT) clutch assembly £150; full exhaust £145; rear shock absorber £165; front brakepads £40; alternator £120; starter motor £115; tyre £45-60.

USED CARS £15,000 - £25,000

MODEL	PRICE Apr-95	May-95	Chge
Volvo 850 2.0 20V GLT Estate	17395	16850	-3.13
Subaru Legacy 2.0 4 cam Estate	16650	16650	0
Saab 900i 16V Convertible	18095	17750	-1.9
Vauxhall Frontera 2.3 5dr	15150	15150	0
Honda Prelude 2.0 2dr	15095	14550	-3.61
Ford Granada 2.9 Ghia Auto Estate	15295	15295	0
Vauxhall Omega 2.0 GLS Auto 4dr	15450	14995	-2.94
Nissan Patrol GR SLX 5dr	17150	16850	-1.74
Mitsubishi Sigma Auto 4dr	19795	19795	0
Mercedes Benz C180 Classic Auto 4dr	18150	17595	3.05
Audi 100 2.8E Quattro Saloon	17995	17995	0
BMW 320i 4dr Auto	17950	17850	-0.55
BMW 525i 4dr Auto	22250	22250	0
Citroen XM 20si Turbo Estate Auto	15695	15650	-0.28
Ford Maverick 2.7 GLX T/D 5dr	16095	16395	2.05
Honda Legend 4dr Saloon Auto	24000	23750	1.04
Isuzu Trooper 3.21 5dr	17950	18095	0.8
Land Rover Discovery Diesel 3dr	17950	17350	-3.34
Mazda Xedos 6 2.01 V6 SE 4dr Auto	18095	17450	-3.56
Mazda RX-7 Turbo	23550	22500	-5.52
Mercedes Benz E220 Auto 4dr	23095	22250	-3.65
Mitsubishi Shogun V6 5dr 2972cc	22500	22500	0
Peugeot 605 V6 SVE 4dr Auto	15595	15595	0
Renault Espace 2.0 RT Estate 5dr	15950	15795	-0.97
Renault Safrane 3.0 RXE V6 5dr Auto	17595	16995	-3.41
Rover Sterling Saloon 4dr Auto	18350	18350	0
Saab New 900 2.5 V6 SE 5dr	18795	18795	0
Subaru Impreza Turbo 2000	15750	15795	0.28
Toyota New Camry 3.0 V6 4dr Auto	19295	18150	-5.93
Toyota Landcruiser 11 3dr Turbo-D	18995	18895	-0.52
Vauxhall Omega 2.0i 16V CD Estate	16995	16795	-1.17
Volkswagen Corrado VR6 3dr Coupe	18695	18250	-2.38
Volkswagen New Golf 2.8 VR6 5dr	16595	16795	-1.47
Volvo 940 Diesel GLE Turbo 4dr	18495	18195	-1.62
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CAP NATIONWIDE MOTOR RESEARCH LTD

Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices HS = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on L-reg, low mileage cars. Figures supplied by ***CAP Nationwide Motor Research.***

ONE of Britain's biggest dealers is taking steps to cancel out "clockers", rogues who swindle motorists by turning back the milometer to hike up used car prices.

Reg Vardy, based in Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, is to log the mileages of every car it services and sells. The figures go onto a computer database so that Vardy salesmen and mechanics can track the history of a model from the start to the end of its life.

Vardy, which sells 60,000 cars a year, is the first motor group to use the system, in association with HPI-Equifax, which will be available at all its 34 showrooms, plus another five opening this year.

Clocking costs motorists an estimated £100 million a year as they are sold cars which, according to the mileage reading, are good as new but, in fact, have been driven huge numbers of miles. While the bodywork of a modern model can look new, the engine might have suffered enormous wear.

Peter Vardy, chairman, says: "We maintain tens of thousands of vehicles, including cars being prepared for sale. By providing mileage readings on these vehicles, we are taking a step which will assist the fight against clocking, and setting a standard we hope the rest of the industry will follow."

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94L 911 Cab Tip (New Model) Midnight/Marble, 17" Rims, Sys 1, 6 Speaker, 8k .... P.O.A.
94L 911 Cab Black/Black Hide, Black Hood, 17", CD, 14k P.O.A.
94L 911 3.6 Tbo SE Met Black, Red Leather, Flat Nose .. P.O.A.
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92J 500SL Blue black, cream hide, air con, rear seat, 8 hole alloys, wind deflector, 18,000 miles. £56,995. Ring Strathstone of Wilmslow on 01625 522222 10.00-3.00 Sundays. Mon-Sat 8.30-6.00

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190D 2.5 Man 91 J. Sig Red 44,600 mls. Alarm. T. bar. FMBSH & Warr. PAS. ABS. All extras. Immac cond £13,450 ono 01323 641 352 Eve/Wknd.

190 E 1.8 1991 Auto Extras. 1 owner Showroom cond. FSH Only 16,000 mls. Private sale £12,500. Tel: 0181 684 2961

190E 2 litre. 1989 G. manual. FSH, main dealer warranty. blue-black metallic. 71,000 mls. new alloys and tyres. £9,250 Tel: 01332 566274 (eves)

190E H reg. 1991. 2 litre. auto. EW. ESR. ABS. etc Blue black color. grey cloth interior. 43,000 mls. FSH. excellent. £12,500 ONO. 0171 435 6222

SL 500
92 Red/cream, 1 owner, FSH, 8 hole alloys, ASR, A/C, CD player, phone.
£50,000
Please ring David Tringham
01952 810065 home
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420SE
1987 (D). 126,000 mls with full MBFSH. Auto. PAS, central locking.
Our lady Director's personal car. Maintained regardless of cost. Extras include 8 hole alloys, grey leather interior, Metallic Blue paint, cruise, esr, ABS, air con, Becker Grand Prix stereo, remote locking alarm, car phone.
£8,995.
Tel 01453 835421 (day) or 0850 580894

230E Auto 91 J White Immaculate. 77K miles FMBSH. Full spec Alarm Must be seen. £17,500 Tel: 01462 700634

190E 2.6 Auto 1988 (E) Red 78,000 mls. excellent condition. FSH. ABS plus usual extras. £7,850 01273 563400

190 F Reg. FSH. Red Int blue/grey. walnut trim. ESR 5 Speed. Tax/Test July EFW £7,299. Tel. 01322 525 793

230E 92K Nautic blue, air con, rhr, 8 holes. 38K miles £19,950. 01491 578688 or 0836 268214 T

230E Auto 89 Mdl. Silver Met/Blue Int. ESR. E/w. RHR 60k. FSH. Immac £8,750 01702 217609/0860 215636T

280E Black/red Rhr. E Reg. Air con. S/wheels RHR Spoiler. Radio/S. Excel cond 90,000 mls £9850. 01245 222671

280SL Sports. B reg. Metallic bronze. auto. magnificent condition. £11,950 01708 447198/ 0860 809141

300 TE 4-Matic. 4WD. Anthracite. Radio Cassette. Aug 1990 1 Owner 27,000 mls ESR EW FMSH. £20,000. Tel h 0161 628 6591. w 01706 881945

300SL 86 White/Burg Hide 65,000m. FSH. H&S Top. Blaupunkt st. Alarm Immac cond. £15,750. 0956 266200

300 SL
F Reg. Almandine Red, cream leather. Alloys, rear seat, wash wipe, cruise, remote alarm.
Rare power hood
Hard top, FSH. Immaculate condition. 44,000 miles
£24,900 ovno
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0121 705 0499 home

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1994 (M) very fast but not overstated. Almandine Red, Cream leather. Electric heated seats, air con. CD, cruise + more. 13,000 mls
New price £53,000, now £40,500 (offers)
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01734 413454 (w)
0860 207999 (m)

300 SL 1992 (J). 38,000 mls. Blue Black. Cream leather. CD. 8 hole alloys FSH. £42,000 ono. Tel: 0181 446 1537/468 5228 (w) 0860 336646

300TE 24v. 90. Red/Grey leather. 7 seats & many other extras. £17,000 Tel: 01926 730670 or 0374 967189

300 SE J. a/con & a/r Totally pristine. 72,000 mls service completed. first to view will buy £18,800. 01276 63471.

300CE 24V 1990 H. Auto Sportsline. 44,000 mls. Immac. Blue/black, cream leather, air con, full spec. FMBSH. £24,750 o.n.o. 0181 950 8133 (h)/ 0171 772 1320 (w)

300SL
1988 F reg.
Signal red with grey lthr hide, rear seats, FSH, 39,000 mls, lady owner.
First to see will buy!
£22,995
01734 834739

SL 320
7,000 mls, Feb '94, beryl metallic, cream leather, Radio/Cassette, air bags, 8 hole alloys, wind deflector, FSH, cruise, non smoking. Garaged & valeted weekly
£53,900.
Tel: 01780 782451 (H)
01945 583200 (O).

300SL
J24. April 90. 52,600 miles. Air cond. Maroon, leather. heated seats, rear seat. cruise control, radio cassette etc.
Private sale- No dealers.
£39,000.
01695 421691

300TE Auto Est T Reg. 62k mls. FSH. Orig & Perfect Through out Urgent Sale £11,800 01622 832803/0831 184277 T

300CE Auto (88 E) Ivory/lthr ABS ESR. Low susp Alpine. r/case 8 spoke alloys FSH Outstanding. £14,995. 01202 731731 (o)/ 888048 (h)

300 CE auto. F reg. nautic blue/cream lthr. 39K mls. FSH. ESR. sportline. CD. Immac. £18,250. 01273 866700

300SL 93K. Red. cream leather. rear seat. twin air bags. 24,000 miles. alloys. £46,950 AFN Chiswick 0181 742 7000. 0836 669 989 T.

SL280, 94L
1 owner from new
94L, 14,000 mls, Pearl Blue/cream hide, 8 Hole Alloys, a/c, CD, good condition.
£47,750
Tel: 0802 405673
or 01924 458952

180C ESPRIT
Manual, L reg, elec. frnt wndws & s/roof, light blue/ blue & black int., CD & alarm system.
Mint condition.
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Cherished number JC 2002, also if required £5,000.
Stoke-on-Trent 01782 512002

300 CE 1989, blue/black. cream hide, htd & elec seats, cruise. 49K mls. FSH. 1 lady owner £18,995 01983 862286

300 D Auto. K Reg. Almandine Red Walnut trim. Rear spoiler Alloy wheels. MB alarm. 9K miles Absolutely immaculate. £22,780. Tel. 01745 720 286.

300 SL 24V 92 K reg 27K Silver. clr coded bumpers. black lthr. 8 Hole alloys Rear seat. Priv sale · No Trade £47,950 Tel 0181 954 1140 Eve /Wknd

300 SL '91 H reg. red/beige leather. 21,000 mls. FMBSH. full spec. superb condition £38,000. 0370 264502.

300SL Multivalve. New shape. Upgraded to 94 spec. Colour coded white. 8 hole £37,500 p/x 0850 334080

300 TE auto. 7 seater estate. '91 J. 64K mls. slate grey metallic. beige cloth. alloys. FMBSH. As new. Merc warranty. £20,500. Tel. 01926 710697.

320 CE. 93K. Very high spec. air con. hide. elec sts. and. 1 own. 66k. pristine. fmbsh £27,995 0831 406172/01372 749090.

380 SL Sports. Gold Metallic. D/Brown soft top. Rear seats. p/plate Present owner since 1984. Excellent cond £9,000 Tel: 01277 811266 (Essex)

260E
1992 K reg. 14k, excel cond, FMBSH, 1 owner fr new. Grey/grey cloth. Alloys.
£20,950.
500SL
1989 F reg. Stunning. Fully loaded. Only 15k. FMBSH. Aqua Marine/hide int. £30,000.
01322 527628

380 SLC Coupe
X reg, Auto.
Classic Blue, Grey velor trim. Cruise control, air conditioned, PAS, electric roof, car phone.
Good condition. 101 K mls.
£8,995 ono.
01242 574730 (h)
01242 222900 (o)

380 SL 1972 Red/cream leather. rear seats. hard top. history. £9,500. (wkend) 01689 856803/ (off) 0181 294 2222

380 SL Sept 1980. Personalised number. Good. Auto. Hard/Soft top. FSH. Cruise control. £10,000. Tel. 01242 683 162

380SLC 81 THC. auto. Nautical blue. Only 28k mls from new. 1 family owner. Priv sale. £14,000. 01932 864670

420SL Mercedes Sports. F reg. Pearl grey metallic. grey leather with rear seat. FMBSH. 74,000 mls. hard & soft tops. 1 previous owner. Maintained regardless of cost. Immac cond. £17,000. 0181 486 7072

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300 SE
Auto 90 H Silver grey met/grey leather. Air Con. Radio/cass. Electric s/roof/windows/f.seats. Alarm. Alloys. New tyres. FMSH. 1 careful owner. Showroom condition.
£17,950
Tel 0149 467 4622.

300SL
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560 SEC 1990 mdl. Blue black/beige hide. 30,000 miles. FSH. Fully loaded. climate control. ASR. POA. 0181-449 9873

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E320 Coupe. L Reg. Met rosewood/ cream hide. 8 hole alloys. 25,000mls. £36,995 Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555

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S600 C Blue / Black. Immed UK or Tax free del Details 0171 493 4218 t

SL280 94 M (95 model with ETS) 5-speed Auto Imperial/Beige leather. R/seats 8 holes. Multi CD. FMBSH. 2K mls. £51,700. Tel: 0141 639 1282 eve

420 SEL
Under 40,000 miles. H reg '91. FMBSH. Blue/cream leather. Normal 420 spec. Air con, elec seats.
£22,000
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or 0860 183539

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Cabriolet 1995. M reg. Azurite with mushroom leather, 3,000 miles, headlamp wash wipe, 6 stack CD, alarm, 8 hole alloys. Unmarked.
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Tel: 01625 873434 home
0161 4882832 office

SL600 Blue / Black. Immed UK or Tax free del. Details 0171 493 4218 t

S280 93L. Pearl blue. sunroof. alloys. 9,000mls. £POA. Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555.

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A writer in top gear

Andrew Pierce talks to TV's Lynda La Plante

MICHAEL POWELL



At home in the Range Rover: "I won best female driver. I was the only woman!"

Lynda La Plante is back. Only weeks after the success of *She's Out*, the long-awaited television sequel to *Widows*, La Plante is returning to the small screen. *The Governor*, a six-part series about the first woman head of an all-male prison, begins on ITV at 9pm tomorrow. A book, published by Macmillan, is coming out simultaneously. It is one of the most ambitious projects to date for La Plante, author of *Prime Suspect*. She spent 18 months researching the book and series, which was filmed in a top-security prison in Dublin.

How did you learn to drive?

On the third attempt, the second being the most memorable. I failed virtually before I started the car: a boyfriend's Ferrari Dino. The examiner slid so low in the seat, I followed suit. After the emergency stop, he squeaked that I should return to the centre. I had been speeding in a 30mph zone from the moment the test had begun. I had been looking at the wrong clock!

What was your first car?

A second-hand Mini estate. I painted two huge white daisies on the door. It was smashed to pieces in a hit-and-run in Islington, and the wreckage had been stolen by the time the haulage company arrived. I spotted it two years later in Regent's Park and gave chase. I reported it to the police, who gave me four parking tickets for my trouble.

What do you drive now and why?

A Range Rover. I spent the day test-driving them in mud slides and through deep water. I won best female driver of the day. I was the only woman!

Do you like driving

Yes, but not in the West End. I like going to see my brother in Yorkshire, so the Range Rover is good for packing in wellingtons and waterproofs.

What is your dream car?

A Rolls-Royce Corniche. I saw a beautiful pale blue one with white leather upholstery in a garage in Marylebone Road. I went into the garage, sat in the car, and thought ... one day.

What is your most hated car

The one which is riddled with rust, untaxed, belching exhaust fumes and the driver of which is probably not insured. They are the ones which always overtake you on the motorway. They get away with it, while I was given a ticket for even "thinking about" whipping into a bus lane. I saw two uniforms 50 yards ahead, so thought no more, but was stopped and fined for not wearing my seat belt round my shoulder. It was round my waist, as I had just had a shoulder operation. Crawling past were the rust-riddled cars I detest!



What is your worst habit in the car?

I never let anybody smoke — although I smoke myself.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

Horn-tooters. They are second only to mothers collecting their children from school who think they have a right to double park.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?

Rehearsed the score for *Calamity Jane*. I was pulled by a police car, sirens flashing, because someone had seen me on the motorway and thought I was drunk. I was merely trying to reach the top note of "*NOOWWW I shout it from the highest hill*".

Have you ever had points on your licence?

Yes. See above.

What do you listen to in the car?

Opera arias or *Dire Straits*.

If you were Transport Secretary, what is the first thing you would do?

Tax cyclists, particularly those who practise racing in the royal parks.

What is your most hated car advertisement?

Any which uses the female sex. You never see a semi-naked man with glossed lips sprawled over a VW.

TIMES ROAD TEST: the new Ssanyong Musso four-wheel-drive

A worthy Korean contender enters the 4x4 race

Kevin Eason is impressed by an unknown marque



Eastern promise: the Mercedes-powered Musso

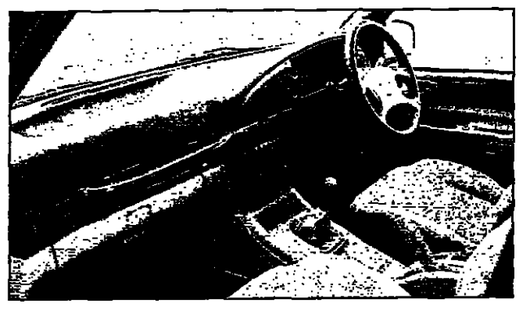
The test was to make a vehicle that would capture the imagination of European buyers and rival Land Rover's best-selling Discovery. The answer? Start with a clean sheet of paper, hire the best designer from Britain, buy the best engine from Germany and make the vehicle in one of the cheapest manufacturing nations on earth.

The result is the Ssanyong Musso. Whichever way you look at it, you have to admire the determination of the South Koreans. They set an agenda to build the best 4x4 on the market and they knew precisely how to go about it.

Ssanyong follows Kia and Daewoo into Britain as a worldwide business almost unheard of here. Ssanyong Business Group, with 25,000 people in 52 worldwide subsidiaries, was restricted to making trucks and military vehicles until it bought the former British sports carmaker, the Panther Car Company, in 1986.

That gave access to Ken Greenley, designer of the Panther Kallista and a man with vast experience in the industry. Director of transportation design at the Royal College of Art, Greenley's list of credits includes Aston Martin's Virage, the new Bentley Azure convertible ... and now the Musso.

His clever touch is immediately apparent in a sector of the market dominated by slab-sided vehicles about as aerodynamic as a housebrick. The Musso sweeps from bonnet to rear like a luxury car — exactly as Greenley and Ssanyong intended. There is no pretence that the Musso is a mighty mud-plugger, for Ssanyong is quite open that it aimed at producing an executive cruiser knowing full well that its owners might own green wellies, but don't want to get them wet.



The ploy so nearly comes off. The package from such a young manufacturer is extremely impressive, from performance up to a sticker price that will attract many prospective buyers.

The 4x4 market is one in which buyers are as status-conscious as they come, so persuading would-be owners that Ssanyong is a badge they will want on the key ring could be tricky. In spite of the drawback of the name, the Musso stands a very good chance because it has so much going for it — that engine for one thing.

Anybody would be reassured to know that a Mercedes diesel was beating under the bonnet, for its high reliability as well as smoothness and performance. Ssanyong buys the five-cylinder, 2.9-litre diesel off the shelf from Germany and mates it to a five-speed transmission with electronic switch to low ratio, and from two-wheel-drive to four. There is not a huge amount of power — only 94bhp — but it's enough to keep the Musso charging along happily on motorways and the company reckons the power pack is gutsy enough to pull a 2,500kg load — plenty for even the biggest caravan.

Ride quality is smoother than many rivals but still prone to roll in corners and the steering wheel is often fidgety, particularly on potholed roads. The interior is comfortable and well laid out, although the Musso's stance as a tall estate rather than a huge 4x4 seems to have cost headroom, and even somebody as vertically challenged as me has a clearance of only a couple of inches to the roof.

As an all-rounder, though, the Musso is a very pleasant surprise which will have the rest of the 4x4 makers looking anxiously over their shoulders. It looks good, performs well and, at prices starting this week at £16,000, is a bargain. The package includes alarm and immobiliser, central locking, locking wheel nuts and powered windows on all models, plus air-conditioning on the £21,000 GSE.

One cute feature that will appeal to women is an automatic lock which engages when the vehicle drives away, to prevent anybody attempting to open the doors at traffic lights — a small feature but one that shows the depth of thought that has gone into the Musso.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Price: £15,999-£20,999. **Engine:** 2.9-litre 94bhp diesel, 5-speed manual (Mercedes automatic a £1,499 option). Electronic four-wheel-drive. **Performance:** 0-60mph in 19.7 seconds; top 91mph. **Fuel consumption:** 24.3mpg in town. **Ins group:** 12/13.

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93K	CORRADO 16V, Flash Red, 57,000 miles, 1 Owner, CD Player	
95M	CORRADO VR 6, Twilight, 5,000 miles, Alloys, Full Spec	
92J	GOLF GTI, 3 Door, Tornado Red, 21,000 miles, Sun Roof, Electric Windows, PAS	
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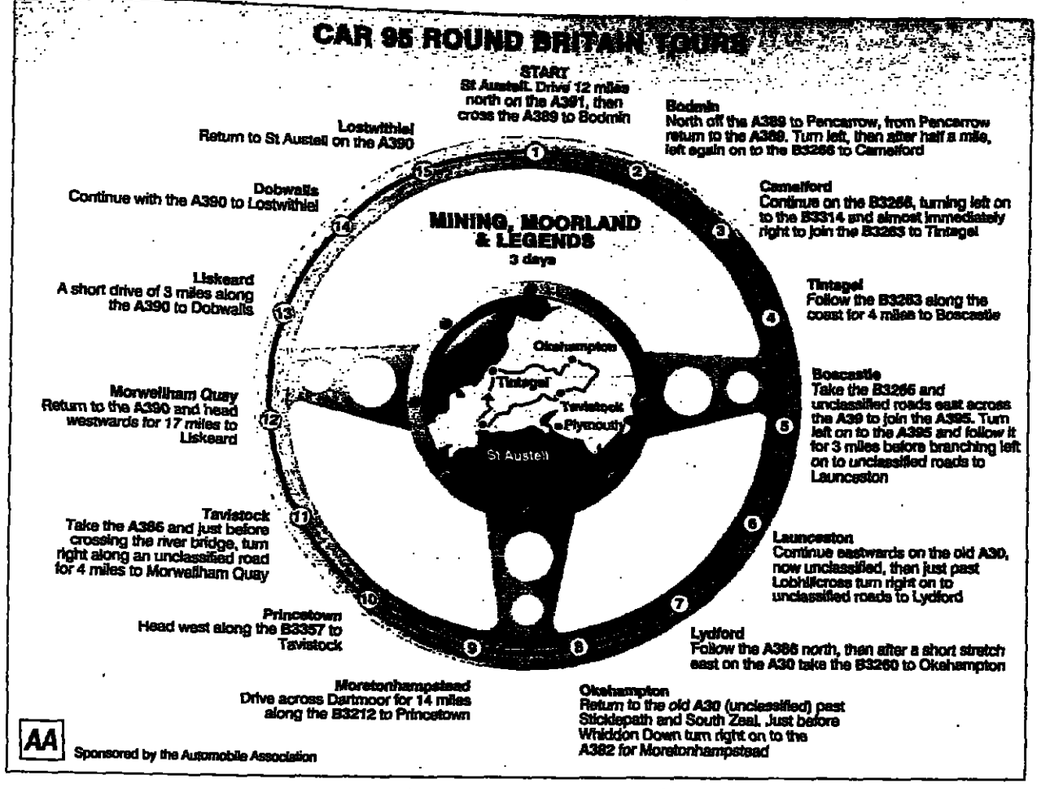
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Alan Copps continues our weekly guides with a gentle jaunt around the charms of Devon and Cornwall





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Through lunar landscapes to the land of legend

This tour passes through some of the most popular holiday country in Britain. Yet its initial stages after leaving the old market town of St Austell run across a landscape of almost lunar desolation.

For this is the centre of the china clay industry. A must stop is the Wheal Martyn museum, housed in a restored 19th-century clay works, which explains vividly how the landscape was created. The road leads on to Bodmin, the only Cornish town mentioned in the Domesday Book, which nestles below its brooding moor where the traces of history mingle with the modern myth of the "beast of Bodmin". Pencarrow House has impressive flower gardens, a pets' corner for children and an Iron Age encampment.

This area is steeped in Arthurian legend and there are some who press the case that Camelford is really Camelot. The spectacular ruins of Tintagel Castle on a windy promontory are also known as "King Arthur's Castle". There are caverns and a waterfall on the dramatic slate cliffs of the "island", which is really a peninsula.

The atmosphere at Boscastle is dominated by the sea. Its harbour nestles among high cliffs and the sea tide and river occasionally meet explosively just beyond the outer breakwater.

At Launceston, the south gate is the only reminder that this was once a walled town enclosing the ruins of its castle. It has interesting churches and a steam railway that runs into the Kensey valley. Nearby is the Tamar Otter Park, where this rare creature can be seen at close quarters, and the Wild Wood where deer and peacocks roam.

The route now crosses into Devon and returns to mining country, although at Lydford the prize was once tin rather than china clay. It's another of those settlements nestling beneath a castle on the edge of a moor. A mile away is Lydford Gorge, scooped out of the Dartmoor landscape by the river Lyd near the 90-foot White Lady Falls.

Okehampton also has its castle ruin, which guards the highest part of Dartmoor, often used for military exercises. The Museum of Dartmoor here is housed in an old watermill and has informative sections on the mining past and Victorian life.

On the road to Moretonhampstead, close to the heart of Dartmoor, stands the granite mass of Castle Drogo, designed by Edward Lutyens. Further on, at Postbridge, stands the best of the old clapper bridges used by pack horses to carry ore from the mines. But the granite mass which dominates this part of Dartmoor is the prison in Princetown, a forbidding edifice in a bleak place.

Tavistock, birthplace of Sir Frances Drake, was also a mining centre and although largely Victorian, has several interesting older buildings. Some of its mining products were exported via Morwellham Quay, which stands 350ft above the water level and is linked to the river by a curious inclined plane. In Victorian times, it was the most important copper port of the Empire. It is now an impressive open-air museum.

The route now heads back into Cornwall, where there is plenty of entertainment for children. Just outside Liskeard, at St Keyne Station, Paul Corin's Musical Collection includes fairground organs and a mighty Wurlitzer, while further on is the highly-rated Dobwalls theme park.

Our tour ends at Lostwithiel, the tidal limit of the River Fowey. Restormel Castle, dating from the 13th century, is well-preserved and has splendid views over the picturesque Fowey valley.

Based on AA Tour Guide Britain, £9.99, from AA shops, W.H Smith and other booksellers

Treasures of Britain, page 16

DR DASHBOARD

How to help reduce smog

Q All this talk about pollution from exhausts is worrying. We need the car but is there any way we can help cut down smog and pollution?

A There is an obvious answer but you don't want to hear it: *don't use the car unless you have to.* The less you drive, the less pollution your exhaust pumps out.

Q That is no help because we have to use the car for so many journeys, such as school runs and getting to work.

A That is because dependency on the car has never been greater. The 1994 Lex Report on Motoring discovered four in ten households had more than one car and motorists expected to buy an extra million vehicles in the next two years. Total road mileage could grow by 30 per cent within five years, so more cars on already congested roads looks to be the future.

Q What sort of pollution do cars cause anyway?

A The gases from the exhaust are a complex cocktail, and it is oxides of nitrogen and unburnt hydrocarbons which cause photochemical smog — the grey fog which has triggered asthma attacks and breathing difficulties in thousands of people over the past couple of weeks. Scientists are also worried about diesel fumes which contain sooty particles, thought to be a carcinogen.

Q But we thought diesel cars were more environmentally friendly. All our friends are raving about how economical they are.

A They are almost right. Actually, the Government's health boffins have reservations about diesel because they believe it could be responsible for considerable pollution problems. Diesels use, on average, 25 per cent less fuel than petrol cars, but many new petrol cars with lean-burn engines are almost as economical.

Q Does that mean we should stick to petrol?

A Diesels are fine but only the latest cars will be relatively clean. Petrol engines are extremely clean if they are equipped with a catalytic converter, which soaks up 90 per cent of toxic engine gases, particularly nitrogen oxides and unburnt hydrocarbons. Some carmakers, such as Saab, boast that the air that comes out of the tailpipe is cleaner than the air that goes in.

Q So what practical steps can we take to help?

A If you go to the same office every day, share a car with two or three colleagues. Same for the school run: there must be many parents who make the same trip, so why use several cars when one will do?

Q Even if we do that, we still have to use a car and presumably cause pollution.

A Keep your car well tuned because unserviced cars are dirty, use more fuel and pump out more pollution. Diesels also need care and attention or they will foul up and start emitting ugly clouds of smoke. Short journeys in petrol cars are less fuel-efficient, because catalysts do not warm up in time to catch the worst pollutants, whereas diesel cars tend to be better around town. Better still, try something we doctors describe as walking.

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Only the toughest are still in the race for Mexico City

Closed borders no impediment for intrepid rallyists

In the third of his special reports on the 25th anniversary London-Mexico Rally, Roy Dixon, co-driving Tony Fall in a Volvo 142S, reports from Quito, Ecuador, on a week which saw several competitors fall by the wayside.

The teams have now left the deserts of Peru and arrived in the lush alpine countryside of Ecuador. After 19 days hard racing this toughest of rallies is beginning to take its toll and, sadly, friendships are being left behind to find their own way home. So far 12 of the 59 starters have given up.

We heard of two retirements by fax. One was from Bill and Eileen Ainscough from Wigan who were forced to call it a day in their 1929 Chrysler 77, the oldest car in the race, after a superhuman effort to cross the Andes. The problem was oil seeping into the clutch.

The other was from George Hampson and Freddie Preston in their Rover 2000 which, apart from attempting to complete the race, was taking Paddington Bear to Lima to raise money for the Cancer Research Campaign. Freddie, reporting a blown engine after leaving Lima on three cylinders, said Paddington had achieved his quest in finding Aunt Lucy but was returning to London without her.

The most miraculous survivors are Major Nick Sharples and Corporal Mick Isted of the Princess of Wales Regiment in their Mark I Escort, who are raising money for the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children. They shattered a differential on Sunday but could not get mechanics to start work until Monday. Once repaired they rushed to the start in Piura, northern Peru, and made it with just one minute to spare. They then took to their beds to rest and follow the others later, only to find the border into Ecuador shut. It turned out that the competitors who had crossed earlier in the day had been the first cars to enter Ecuador from Peru in three months and the guards were not letting anyone else follow them. However, Major Sharples has arrived with the rest of us, albeit without the necessary stamps in his passport.

Tony and I continue in fifth place overall, without major dramas other than Tony badly spraining his ankle. But all is well and last week we put in our best performance so far by coming third on one stage.

It has been a very tiring race. Most mornings we are up at 4.30am. Tony usually works on the car at a local Volvo dealership until 10.00am. Without his efforts and their assistance, we would have been out of the rally by now.

One of the most impressive drives was Stage 23, a 55km all-tarmac section near Cuenca in southern Ecuador. It favoured the most powerful cars in the rally and was won in 26 minutes 22 seconds by the Ford Mustang of Australian Terry Daly and his New Zealand co-driver Bob Brill.

Stage 23 was not so kind to Stanley Illman from South Africa and his Austrian co-driver Franz Stangl. After being given a clutch by the owner of one of only three Porsches in Lima, the petrol pump on their 911 broke, costing them another 20 minutes.

Hannu Mikkola from Finland and his co-driver Gunnar Palm from Sweden, winners of 1970 event, continue to lead in their Ford Escort. Their professionalism, speed and general workmanlike approach is admired by all.

Scottish rival to the Mille Miglia



A 1957 Mercedes 300SL heads a row of rare cars being carefully watched over in the eighth year of the Ecurie Ecosse in Tayside

Kevin Eason on the exclusive club of the Talacrest Ecurie Ecosse Rally

The watchful eyes under the peaked cap were guarding some of the most valuable metal in the country.

Lined up behind the security man on the gravelled forecourt of a hotel in the north of Scotland were cars to take the breath away. Unfortunately, there was always the prospect that the light-fingered might decide to take a piece of car away given half a chance during this week's Talacrest Ecurie Ecosse Rally.

In its eighth year, the Ecurie Ecosse has become less of a rally and more of an exclusive club with 36 exotic models, from Ferraris to Bentleys, haring around more than 700 miles around Tayside.

The rally is a reminder of the fun of motor sport with the cars and owners there to show off and to be shown off. Frank Sytner, the former British Touring Cars Champion, was with his 1964 AC Cobra, and Viscount Cowdray with a Ferrari 365 GTB Competition Daytona from 1970. But there was also a Ferrari 250GT Berlinetta, once driven by Stirling Moss, an Aston Martin LM23, which ran four times at Le Mans, and the Jaguar C-type Lightweight which was first to average 100mph over 24 hours at Le Mans.

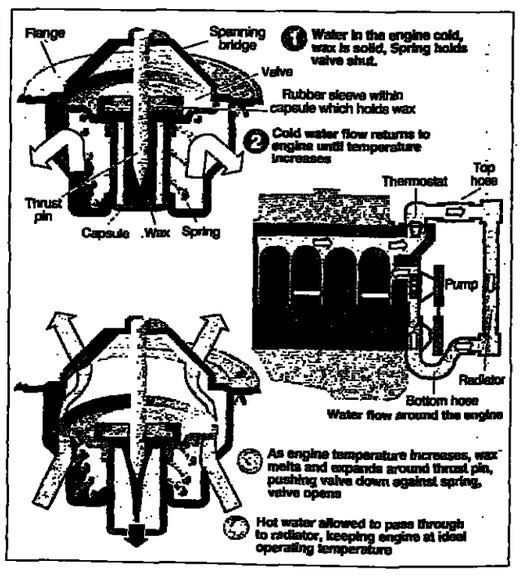
Such rare cars would inevitably attract the attention of thieves but John Foster, the organiser, yesterday reported no problems. Mr Foster, who dreamt up the Ecurie Ecosse as a British rival to Italy's famous Mille Miglia, said: "Parts are very expensive and rare and light-fingered people taking them would cause problems."

With winding roads to negotiate, difficult thoroughbreds such as these might have been expected to spend time with bonnets up and owners in despair. But Foster was having difficulty finding a recipient for the most sought-after award of the week: the silver spanner for the car suffering the most breakdowns.

"We had one flat battery and needed some Araldite, but apart from that everything went smoothly," he said. Owners paid £1,200 to enter and all proceeds — about £10,000 funded by the sponsors, Talacrest of Egham, Surrey — go to charity. But a new sponsor is needed for the 1996 rally.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Thermostats keep things cool



A CAR ENGINE started from cold takes time to warm up and to reach its correct operating temperature. The quicker it reaches that temperature the sooner it begins operating at its most efficient (Vaughan Freeman writes).

When the engine is hot, cool water from the car's radiator is forced through the engine block by the water pump. The water collects heat from the engine and is then pumped through the thermostat and back to the radiator, where the water is cooled by air rushing in from the front of the car.

The thermostat stops cooling water circulating by restricting flow until the engine is hot. Once hot, it opens to allow cooling water through to maintain the engine's correct running temperature.

The thermostat is usually found on the cylinder head just where the top hose joins from the radiator. Inside is a small, sealed capsule filled with wax. When the engine is turned on, the valve in the thermostat is closed. Even though the water pump is working, it cannot pump water through the closed thermostat, and instead travels through a bypass.

As the engine warms up so does the thermostat, and the wax inside the capsule begins to melt and expand. This expansion drives out the thrust pin, which opens the valve, allowing the hot water to pass through and back to the radiator.

When the engine is turned off the wax begins to cool and contract. As it does, the spring pushes the valve closed. The wax then solidifies with the thermostat in its closed position, ready for the engine to be turned on.

A faulty thermostat — for instance one in which the wax has leaked out causing the thermostat to jam closed — can cause the engine to overheat because water will not circulate back to the radiator. In this case the thermostat must be replaced or, in an emergency, simply removed until a new one can be fitted.



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'She's Out' at the wheel of a Range Rover

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CAR 95

Enjoy the challenge to win a touring holiday

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THE TIMES Lease Plan 7 Company Car Driver 1995

SATURDAY MAY 13 1995

Kevin Eason on a remarkable electronic brain designing the transport of tomorrow

2001 – an odyssey to the supercar



The projection dome, with its six colour video projectors, in which car and driver motor into virtual reality

The snow was beating down on the windscreen as the car slewed from side to side until there was no escape from the inevitable crash.

The sound of splintering metal in an £80,000 car would bring even the hardiest motorist out in a cold sweat of fear. The crash, though, was not real — just a figment of a sophisticated electronic imagination. The cabin of the S-class Mercedes looked real enough, but there was no engine, no wheels and no road to drive on, only a Sega-type virtual reality display on a 180-degree television screen and a machine which acted and felt like a real car. Even the weather was thought up by computer.

The Mercedes-Benz simulator is the arcade game addict's ultimate dream, the car loaded into a "flying saucer", a five-tonne dome on stilts which can recreate every street scene down to the whoosh of wind noise over the windscreen and the howl of a January gale.

Dip the throttle and the S-class is shooting along a cobbled street, swishing past pedestrians, its wheels apparently dancing with each crevice in the road. Except the cabin of this S-class is contained inside its computerised womb, insulated from the outside world, the bumps and bangs recreated by the six hydraulic legs of the huge dome.

Each movement is calculated by an electronic brain checking the driver's actions every six milli-seconds, for the computer is not just watching the car, it is watching the driver, too. This is the modern face of Hal, the brain at the centre of the Jupiter-bound spaceship in Stanley Kubrick's *2001, A Space Odyssey*, that not only talks to machines but studies every movement and response in the driver.

Every blink of the eye is measured, every heartbeat counted, every tiny rise in blood pressure noted until the computer has built up a profile so accurate, it probably knows more about the driver than he understands about himself.

Mercedes engineers concluded that no matter how clever the automatic equipment on board a car, it was only as good as the driver. Most, for example, never press the brakes to the limit even in the direst emergency, which means they never make the best use of anti-lock brakes.

They also discovered that far from being alerted by the squeal of brakes in an emergency, the noise simply distracted drivers and slowed their reactions to a skid. Strangely, drivers reacted immediately to a gong warning that they were out of control.

> 'Every blink of the eye is measured'

The Mercedes boffins realised the reaction to the gong meant they could devise some form of early warning system that could save hundreds of drivers from crashing. As "Hal" — housed in an unprepossessing factory on the outskirts of Berlin — watched its human guinea pigs, engineers became aware that drivers suffer from three problems: they panic and oversteer when they lose control, don't brake hard enough and take too long thinking about what to do.

A loud warning signal would do more to alert drivers to danger than relying on their "feel" for the car's movement.

Even the daftest driver — doped on drink or drugs — can be checked in complete safety, able to crash a hundred times without fear of injury or damaging a luxury car.

The benefits of simulators for training pilots have long been known but their use in the motor industry is in its infancy. Dr Michael Kramer, director of Daimler-Benz research, says research institutions from around the world, including America's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, have used the simulator to study the effects of drugs, alcohol and lack of sleep on drivers.

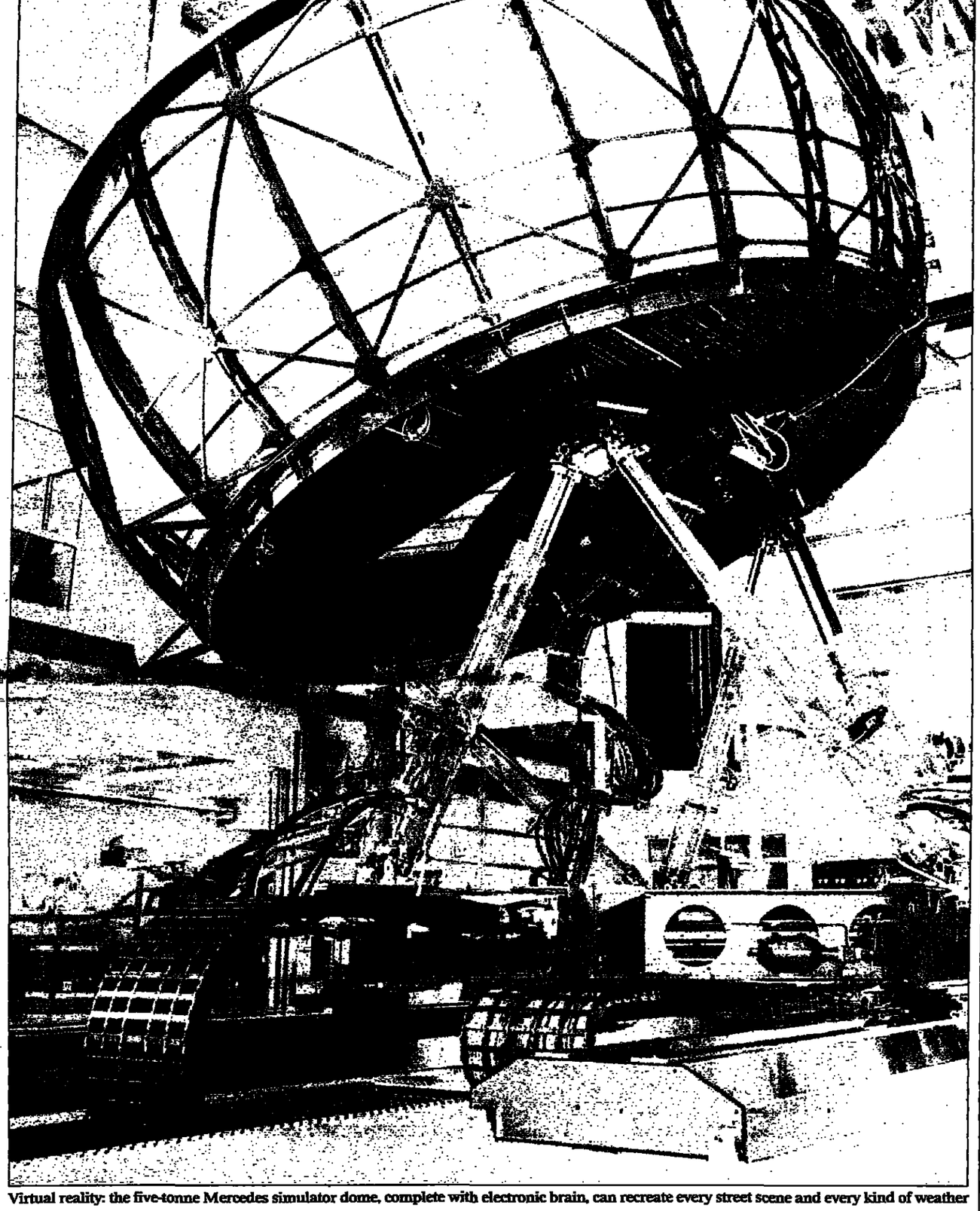
By melding the feedback from driver reaction to its own car development programme, Mercedes can cut the time it takes to design and test components. The simulator can test equipment over a long period before the carmaker has any need to construct new parts physically. The notional design is simply tested over and again by the computer in the dome and modified if faults are detected.

So accurate are the results that Mercedes says the simulator eliminates the need for costly prototypes and hours of laborious testing on the roads. The rear axle of the soon-to-be-seen A-class city car was designed by computer, as well as the axles and steering for the new E-class range, which comes to Britain later this year.

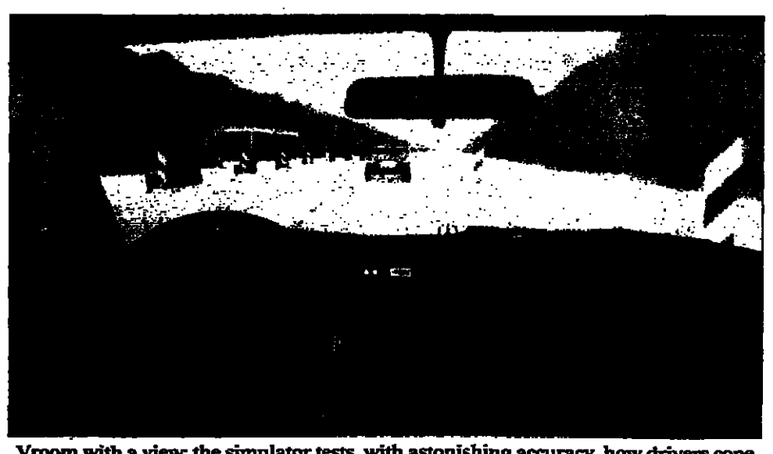
This is the brave, new world of motoring design, a world far removed from the time when Karl Benz and Gottlieb Daimler, founders of the Mercedes business, bashed metal to make their first cars and engines.

The next step is to make headsets that take engineers and drivers into a computer world that allows them to sit inside a car that doesn't exist, and drive along a road that is not there to a destination dreamed up by an electronic brain. Watch this space.

Research by Hilton Holloway



Virtual reality: the five-tonne Mercedes simulator dome, complete with electronic brain, can recreate every street scene and every kind of weather



Vroom with a view: the simulator tests, with astonishing accuracy, how drivers cope with all kinds of unexpected hazards, such as roadworks and narrowing lanes

'Classic' owners attack new tax threat

Enthusiasts wary of 'non-runner' pledge by DoT

Car enthusiasts have bitterly criticised as a "tax on possession" far-reaching proposals to reform road tax laws and introduce a system of continuous licensing (Vaughan Freeman writes).

The proposals were outlined in a Department of Transport discussion document aimed at stopping tax dodges which cost the Treasury about £160 million a year. Enthusiasts fear the proposals will penalise law-abiding motorists by landing them with the cost and red tape of tax enforcement.

Owners of classic and vintage cars have found support for their cause among fair-weather sports car drivers and motorcyclists, as well as motor-caravanners who use their respective modes of transport for only a few weeks each year.

The document proposes three categories of licence. These would include full-time, on-road licences similar to the existing Vehicle Excise Duty. There would also be an off-road licence available for six or 12 months, designed for



Source of the problem

vehicles likely to be out of commission for such a period, and a shorter temporary off-road licence.

In an interview with *CAR 95* last month the Transport Secretary, Dr Brian Mawhinney, said the fears of classic car owners over the proposals were unfounded. He added: "The idea of imposing full vehicle excise duty on classic, vintage or heritage cars which are only on the roads a few days a year is not a runner".

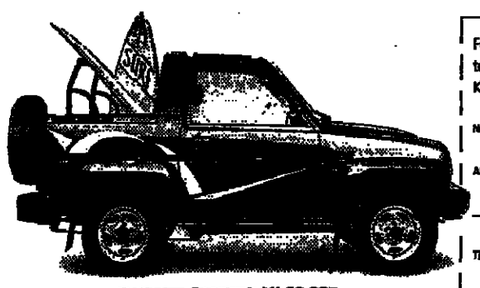
Far from being reassured, classic car enthusiasts say they have not been given adequate time for consultation. The consultation period is due to end on June 2.

Jim Whyman, secretary of the Federation of British Historic Vehicles Clubs, said: "We applaud efforts to catch the cheats but not at the expense of an innocent minority. The Government should withdraw the unfair, unwieldy, and probably unworkable proposal for continuous licensing."

Trisha Pilkington, of the Totnes Motor Museum in Devon, who runs the Tops historic racing car club, has a 500-signature petition against the proposals, which, she says, have not been properly costed. The administration charge for continuous licensing is suggested at an improbably low £5.

Regardless of what may happen in the future, classic car owners are renowned for their eye for detail. So if you want to add that authentic touch, facsimile discs are now available in the precise original colour for every year from 1921 to 1974 from Earlswood Reproductions (0173-776 4343).

Sports car: £9,995.



Surfing? Climbing? Mountain biking? Whatever your sport you'll find plenty of room for all the gear that goes with it in the Sportrak Xi, Daihatsu's new 4WD, with power steering, fuel injection and removable rear hardtop.

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THE AA'S GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**

M1, A40 and A406: FA Cup Final at Wembley next Saturday. Expect heavy congestion.

A406 North Circular Rd, Upper Edmonton: width reduced on Lea Valley Viaduct until end 1995.

A219 Putney Bridge: one lane each way for repairs until June.

A41 Edgware Way, Barnet: Overnight repairs between Spur Rd and Elstree Rd South. Southbound exit slip at J4 of M1 closed 9pm-5.30am until end of June.

● **SOUTH EAST**

Berkshire: Royal Windsor Horse Show at Home Park May 10-14.

M25 Surrey J10-11 (A3/Chertsey): lane closures both directions.

M25 Surrey J7-8 (M23/Reigate): roadworks cause regular delays and affect traffic joining from M23 northbound.

M3 Surrey J4a-5 (Fleet Services-Hook): new roadworks, carriageway down to two lanes each way. Long delays expected.

A3 Guildford, Surrey: major roadworks between Stoke Interchange and Compton. Long delays expected.

M23 J9 (Gatwick) Sussex: Resurfacing May 15 to July with contraflow northbound.

● **SOUTH WEST**

M5 Avon J19-17 (Portbury-Bristol West): Contraflow.

M5 Avon J16: Southbound entry slip road closed.

M5 Glos J11-12 (Cheltenham-Gloucester): contraflow until September.

M5 J9 (Tewkesbury): Contraflow.

A40 Glos (Golden Valley Bypass): One lane each way across the M5.

A36 Somerset (A366 junction): Major roadworks.

A39 Penryn, Cornwall: Long delays . Should be avoided.

● **MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA**

M6 West Midlands J5-6 (A462-A38M): Contraflow with three narrow lanes each way and some restrictions on slip roads at J6.

A43 Silverstone, Northants: resurfacing work. Long delays expected.

A45 Stonebridge (JA452): flyover construction widening between the M42 J6 and Stonebridge Island.

● **NORTH**

M6 Lancashire J29-32 (Bamber Bridge-Broughton): Widening works with only two lanes southbound at J31 (Salmesbury).

M63 Greater Manchester J10-12 (Princess Parkway-Brinksway): No entry northbound at J11. Long delays expected at rush hour.

● **WALES**

A48 Dyfed: Contraflow in place west of J49 of the M4 (Pont Abraham), for construction.

A5 Maerdy, Clwyd (Glyn bends): Various restrictions including temporary lights at times and short term closures until end July.

A4223 Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan: A one-way system is operating on Gelliwastad Road because of widening work until the end of June.

A40 Monmouth, Gwent: Lane closures at the Gibraltar Tunnels until August for lighting work.

● **SCOTLAND**

M90 Tayside J10 (Friarton Bridge): Northbound lane closed and an overnight contraflow.

M8 Strathclyde J15-18 (Townhead-Charing Cross): Outside lane closed westbound.

M9 Lothian J2 (Newbridge): Major construction between the motorway and the Edinburgh City Bypass.

Edinburgh: Width restrictions on the High Street between North and South bridges until end of June.

A91 Kirkcaldy, Fife: Width restrictions on St Clair Street.

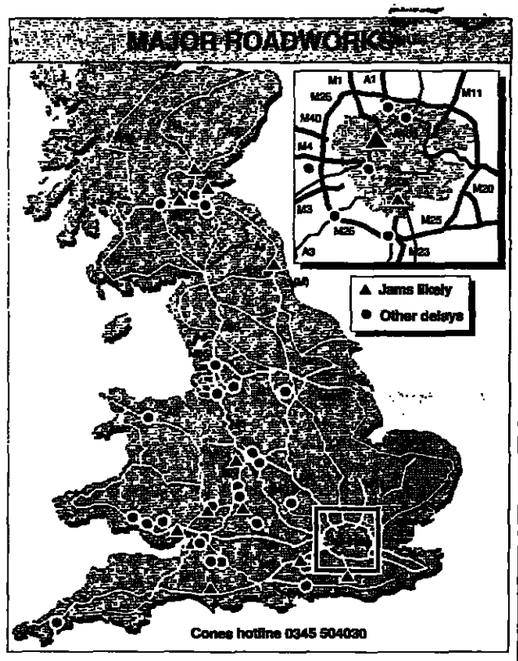
A90 Forth Road Bridge, Lothian: Overnight work with contraflow May 19-22 8pm-6am. 30mph speed limit, wide loads divert via Kincardine Bridge.

● **NORTHERN IRELAND**

M2 County Antrim: Lane closures south of Dunsilly, for resurfacing.

M22 County Antrim: Southbound diversions for resurfacing work between Ballygroobey and Dunsilly.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



'VED is ridiculous, unfair, bureaucratic, hard to collect, and out of kilter with the Government's own policies'

Get in gear, Ken, and write off road tax

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

My colleagues who cover the Palace of Varieties, otherwise known as Parliament, reckon the Government's survival strategy rests heavily on a giveaway budget in November 1996.

However, an administration in this one's condition cannot get there from here, so to speak, therefore Kenneth Clarke will surely have to start opening the box of goodies this November. What chance of a share for the motorist?

There are 25 million cars in Britain and motorists contribute about £23 billion to the national purse each year. In exchange, total government spending on transport — buses and trains as well as roads — is less than £7 billion. So the Treasury is the daily winner of a jackpot provided by car drivers.

Apart from the tax on fuel, which amounts to 75 per cent on each litre, the Government raises about £3 billion every year from vehicle excise duty (VED), or road tax.

The petrol tax has a lot to commend it, whereas VED is ridiculous, unfair, bureaucratic, hard to collect and out of kilter with the Government's own policy on the environment, which claims to be in favour of taxing the polluter. VED taxes the owner, whether that is the little old lady doing 3,000 miles a year or the sales exec doing 60,000.

Now, as our story on page 1 reveals, the VED bureaucratic nightmare is being extended to owners of classic cars. In the late 1980s, there were signs that Whitehall had woken up, because VED did not increase. In 1993, though, it went up a massive 18 per cent, to £130. Last year it was raised again, to £135.

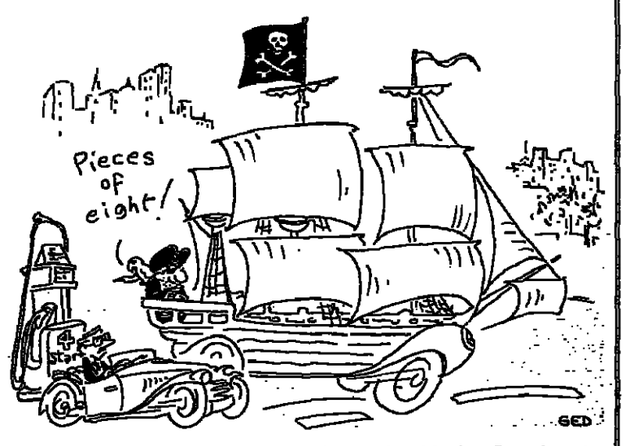
Evasion of VED is running at an estimated £6 million a year. In the wake of the local election debacle, there was much hand-wringing about what the Tories could do to increase their popularity. They could take note that research by the AA shows 72 per cent of motorists want VED abolished.

The AA says abolition should be gradual, with the burden switching to petrol tax so that users pay — the acid test of any tax system. A cut of 10 per cent in VED from November would need a petrol tax increase of only 2 per cent. The scrapping of VED at one fell swoop, which I favour, would raise petrol duty by 30 per cent.

That sounds a lot but in fact the average motorist, covering 12,000 miles a year, would pay about the same in increased petrol costs as now paid in VED. However, the financial consequences of driving would be felt directly and regularly, rather than once a year in a queue at the post office.

If the Government is serious about reducing both bureaucracy and pollution, it will scrap VED and switch to raising the money in a way that is both direct and unavoidable. If it is not serious, it will not take that step. Over to you, Mr Clarke.

Not, though, without a suggestion as to a source of more revenue for the insatiable Treasury. Fellow boat-owners will doubtless stop speaking to me as of today, but fearless campaigners cannot concern themselves with that.



Not many people know that marine diesel fuel, which is dyed red to distinguish it from the kind used in road vehicles, sells for roughly 25 pence a litre, less than half of the cost of the road version. This harks back to sensible legislation designed to favour the shipping fleets but also applies to pleasure boats.

So car diesel at my local garage costs 54.9 pence a litre; for the boat, at a marina, it costs 25 pence a litre. Boating in Britain has accurately been described as standing in a shower tearing up £20 notes. None the less, it is impossible to justify swingeing taxes on petrol and road diesel while that for pleasure boats is, in effect, subsidised by the taxpayer.

Fresh moves for clean air

Tony Dawe on the Government's strategy to improve air quality in towns

The first step towards banning cars from busy towns on days of heavy pollution will be taken within the next couple of weeks when the Government introduces new powers into the Environment Bill currently going through Parliament.

An amendment to be proposed by Robert Atkins, the Environment Minister, will open the way for local councils to establish air-quality management areas. They will be encouraged to set air-quality targets and given powers to achieve them, including the ability to ban traffic.

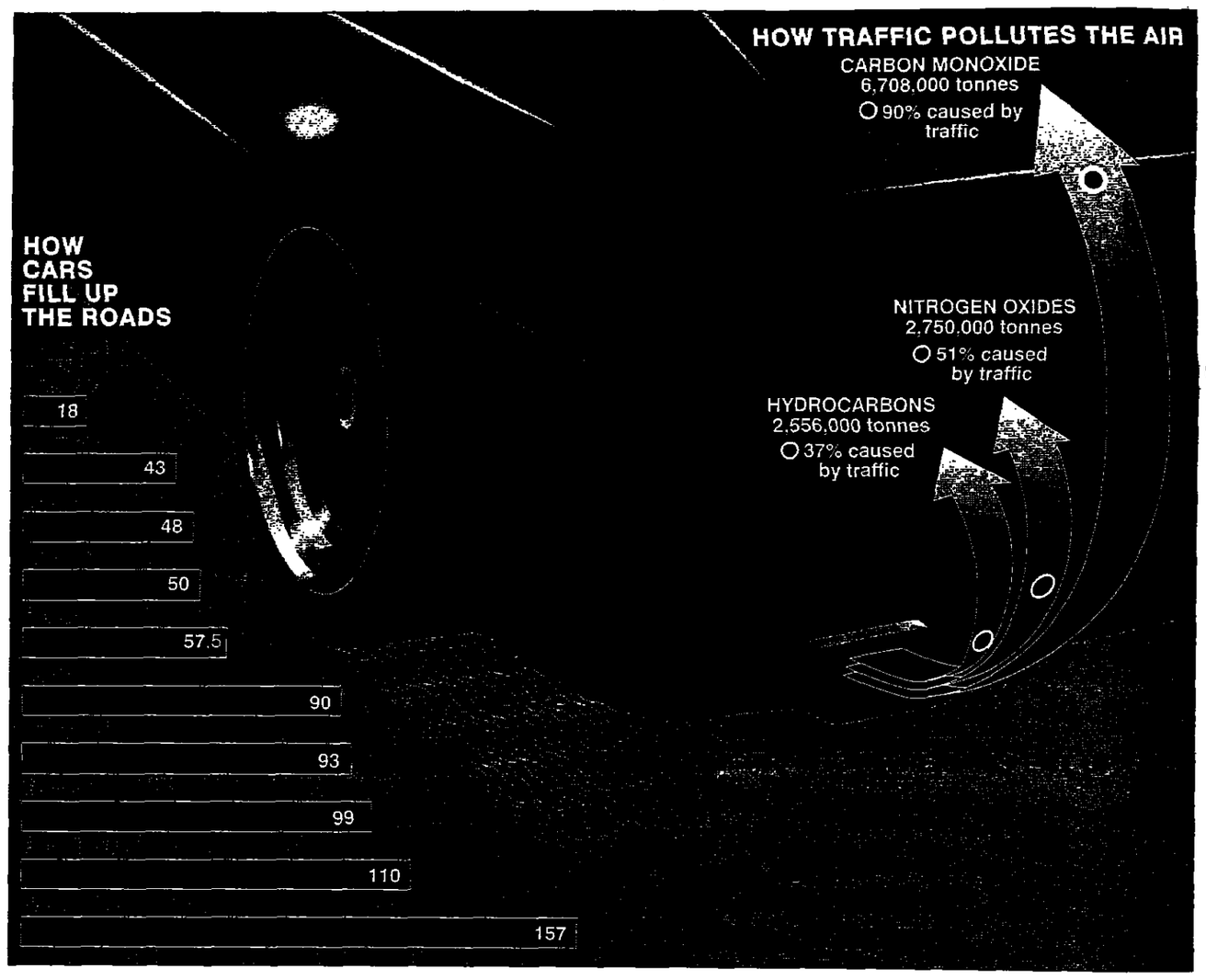
The move comes after several cities, including London, Belfast and Sheffield, recorded dangerously high levels of pollutants, mostly caused by traffic, during unseasonably hot weather a week ago.

In London alone, more than 1.3 million tonnes of pollutants are released into the atmosphere each year, with 80 per cent estimated to come from motor vehicles. The pollutants include carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide, by-products from burning petrol, and unburnt hydrocarbons.

Statistics published earlier this month also showed that Britain has the most congested roads in the industrialised world, apart from Italy, a factor which increases the risk of pollution.

The creation of air-quality management areas is part of the Government's strategy for cleaner air and, in the words of John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, to "offer reassurance to all those concerned about the link between air pollution and respiratory illness".

Local councils will be required to develop a plan to reduce pollution in areas where safety levels are likely to be breached. "They will have a duty to consider the impact of industry and traffic and to take steps to control pollution from both sources," says Roger Hickman, the atmosphere and transport campaigner for Friends of the Earth, which supports the move.



"We hope they will be encouraged to create more pedestrianised streets and cycle ways and to implement traffic bans on smoggy days."

Similar schemes have been introduced in Europe, including Athens, where an experimental ban on traffic within the city centre is in force between 8am and 8pm to reduce smog and promote tourism. Only minibuses and taxis are permitted, with offenders facing a £60 on-the-spot fine.

The German federal government is also considering banning cars without catalytic converters on smoggy days, and local authorities in Bremen and Lower Saxony have ordered speed limits to be reduced in hot weather, from 130 to 90km/h on autobahns (78 to 56mph) and from 100 to 80km/h (62.5 to 50mph) on other roads.

Brian MaWhinney, the Transport Secretary, believes that the variable 50 and 60 mph speed limits now being tried out on the western sector of the M25 will also reduce pollution as well as improving safety by ensuring that traffic flows more smoothly at peak times.

> We hope they have traffic bans on smoggy days

Local authorities in London have yet to consider such draconian measures as those imposed by their counterparts in Athens and some other cities. They are, however, planning to target the worst offenders: smoky vehicles and those left with their engines running unnecessarily at the kerb.

Measures proposed in a London Bill, also going through Parliament, would give council officers the power to stop vehicles and test emissions and to issue fixed penalty notices if the emissions exceeded the limits laid down in the MoT test.

"Pollution tickets" would also be issued to drivers of stationary vehicles left with their engines on, such as coaches, taxis and lorries unloading.

"We have met resentment at the thought of council officers being given these powers, but the police lack the time and resources to carry out this role which is essential if pollution is to be reduced," says Ian Keating, of the Association of London Government.

The measures could be in force by next summer if the Bill is approved. London officials are hoping, however, to introduce them more quickly by persuading MPs to back their inclusion in the Environment Bill which could become law by the end of this year.

Motoring organisations, on the other hand, are urging MPs to oppose some of the measures, especially the right of council officials to stop vehicles. Motoring and environmental interests are equally split over solutions to congestion.

Figures produced by the British Road Federation this month showed that although Britain has fewer cars per head of the population than countries such as Germany, America and Japan, we have more cars for every mile of road than any industrialised country except Italy: 110 cars per mile compared with 99 in Germany and only 48 in the US.

Andrew Pharoah, the federation's campaign co-ordinator, says: "The main reason why our motorways and other roads are busier than most countries is that we have fewer of them. The amount of traffic is continuing to grow, yet the maintenance of the existing road network and its further development has consistently been deprived of the necessary funds to ensure a system free from expensive disruption."

Hickman argues, however, that road building only encourages people to use their cars. "We must find a way of easing congestion without increasing traffic levels, and that means traffic management schemes and, inevitably, better public transport," he says.

NEWS SUMMARY

Vauxhall marks prices up

Vauxhall puts up prices by an average 0.8 per cent from next week as the impact of the fall in sterling on currency markets continues to hit carmakers. Corsa, Monterey and Frontera prices are unchanged but an Omega 2.0i GLS, made in Germany, which has suffered the worst of the currency changes, goes up £255 to £18,250.

Safety on the hard shoulder

Green Flag, formerly National Breakdown, is sending 1,500 breakdown operators back to school to improve their safety techniques. The organisation says 20 per cent of motorway accidents are on the hard shoulder and wants breakdown crews, and their customers, to stay safe.

Jaguar picks up speed

Jaguar celebrates 60 years in business with two new XJS models. The 4.0i coupe, with special wheels and interior trim, is £38,950, while a 2plus2 convertible will be in showrooms at £45,950. XJS sales were up 21 per cent last year and are booming, particularly in the United States.

Spanish go-ahead

Ford has spent more than £400 million on a new plant at Valencia in Spain to make engines for the company's range of small cars. The first engines will be 1.25 litres in size and probably destined for Ford's new mini-model, the Ka, which is also being built at Valencia. Twice as efficient as traditional plants, Valencia will make an extra 450,000 engines a year.

Take Friday off the road

If you are reading this from the comfort of your armchair and not a hospital bed, then you avoided the most dangerous day of the week. Churchill Insurance says Friday is when most accidents happen on the roads, accounting for 17 per cent of crashes. Sunday is the safest day. The insurer warns that tired drivers leaving work at the end of a tough week is the probable cause for Friday crashes.

Mazda cover into next century

Mazda is extending warranties to five years or 100,000 miles, the first company to do so in Britain. This means that owners of new Mazdas will be covered into the next century.

Living room with a lethal touch

Comfortable cars make us forget the dangers, warns **Kevin Eason**

MOTORISTS cocooned by the warmth and comfort of their cars have been warned to stop treating them like the living room and remember that they are in control of potentially lethal machines.

The RAC says modern cars are now so comfortable that motorists forget they are often driving at high speeds . . . and into danger.

The warning came after Harry Offer, a 32-year-old businessman, was jailed for three months this week for dangerous driving. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Offer was using his mobile telephone and reading a map on the steering wheel as he drove his Volkswagen Golf GTi at up to 115mph on the M5 in the West Midlands.

The RAC recommends all mobile phones in cars are "hands free" and tells drivers to plan their routes before they set off.

Edmund King, RAC campaigns manager, says: "We've all seen people doing it. Modern cars are so pleasant and welcoming, drivers settle down and relax, and forget what speeds they are doing and the fact that they are supposed to be in control. But motorists simply must not allow themselves to be lulled into a false sense of security. They might feel they are invincible sitting at the wheel, but they are not and accidents happen at those very moments when drivers are not concentrating or they are fiddling about with equipment that should not distract them."

The RAC says drivers should pull over to make a phone call or study the map. Better still, make all arrangements before you set out.

Human error is the fault in an estimated nine in ten accidents, according to the AA, high enough for drivers to need to carry out an MoT test on themselves as much as their cars.

Andrew Howard, the AA's head of road safety, says: "Motorists should routinely ask themselves questions. If a pattern emerges of careless, risky behaviour behind the wheel, drivers should reassess their attitude and look at how they can change."

THE TIMES

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Send your tokens to: *The Times* MG Competition, 11 Whitefriars Street, London EC88 7NG. The competition closes on May 27.

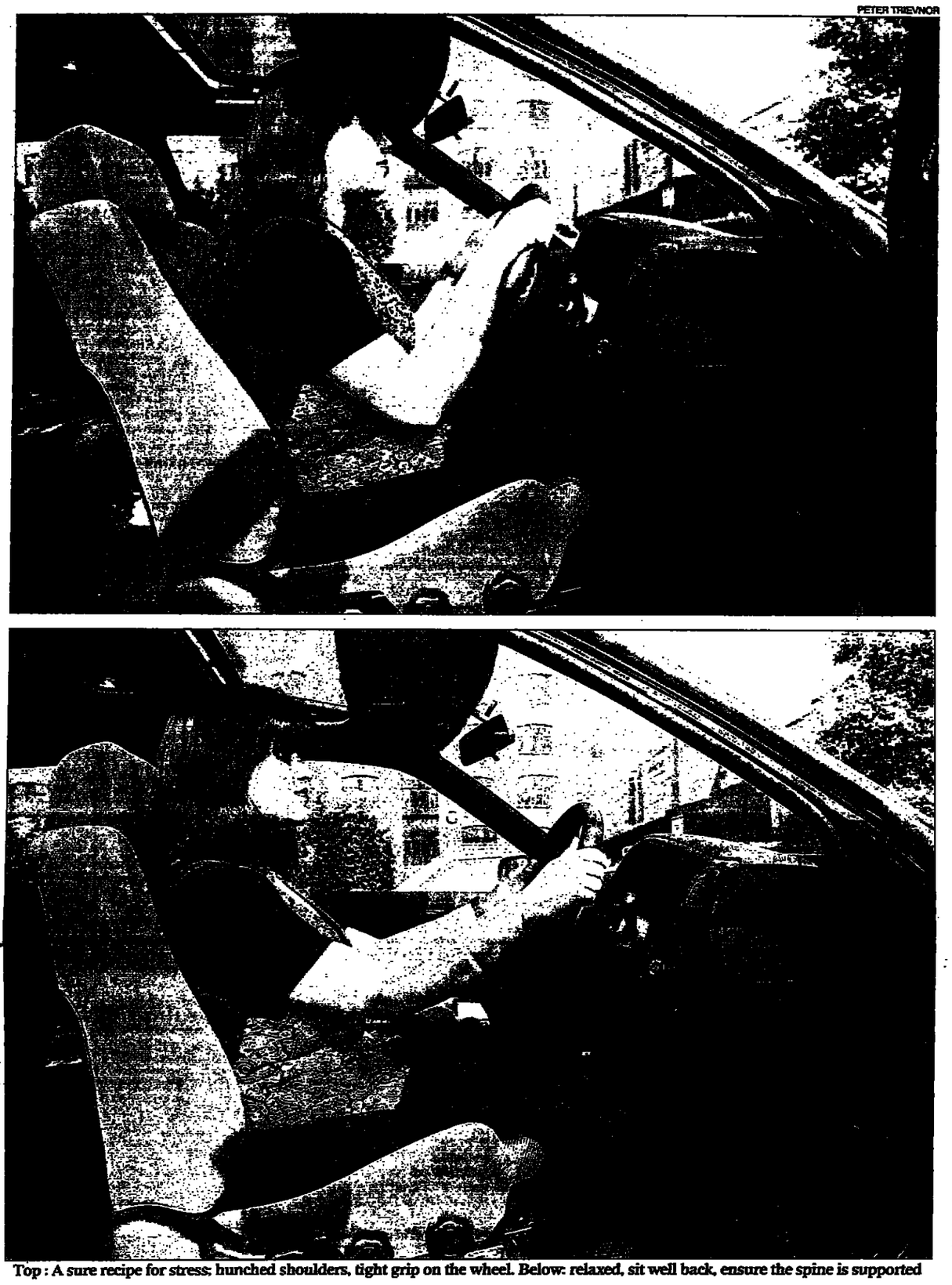


هكذا من الأصل

Ros Lewis asks you to work out your levels of driving tension and then suggests ways to relieve it

A very de-stressing experience

Sitting properly, good back support, and doing the correct exercises can help you to keep your cool in a car



PETER TRIEVNOR

Top : A sure recipe for stress: hunched shoulders, tight grip on the wheel. Below: relaxed, sit well back, ensure the spine is supported

Driving gets most of us in a stew. Being stuck in traffic jams, tailgated, cut up or driving against the clock, all these are common incidents that cause stress, and in the extreme will cause road ragers to commit violence against fellow drivers.

Under stress our heart rate increases, blood pressure rises, general senses are heightened, and oxygen is sent to our muscles to get them ready to go. Alas, as the driver still has to sit in the car all that energy and anger cannot go anywhere.

The stressed-out driver will at worst drive erratically and at best get more and more frustrated as incidents occur. Obviously, it would be a lot better for everyone if drivers could stop getting stressed in the first place.

Psychologists who have studied driving agree that driving in itself can be a stressful activity. And there are, according to Dr Ian Glendon, of Aston University, several common themes in how we experience stress whilst on the road. Weekly commuters tend to feel that driving is more stressful in the evening than in the morning, and that mid-week driving is more stressful than at the weekends.

> Doctors agree that driving in itself can be a stressful activity

Dr Glendon's studies have also found five factors that cause us to feel particular stress: a person's own aggressive feelings about driving; dislike of driving; heightened alertness and concentration associated with driving; tension and frustration when overtaking (both successfully and unsuccessfully); irritation when overtaken.

So given that most of us do feel stressed whilst driving, that we do react differently, and we all carry differing levels of stress anyway, what can be done to ease our minds and bodies?

First, keep a diary recording a week's driving. Rate each day for the amount of stress you felt during different times of the day, and on different days. Note what kind of events wind you up the most, how often you were in difficult situations, and how you normally handled that event. Also write down how stressed you were feeling in general, and see if that is affecting how you handle your driving.

Psychologists broadly define the stressful personality in terms of types "A" and "B". "A" tends towards aggressive, pushy, overtaking-at-all-costs behaviour; "B" is more relaxed, patient, able to take things more slowly. If you are an "A" take time to work at reducing your stress levels.

Psychologists think that just as we have our personal space zone — areas of invisible space around our bodies that we don't like being invaded — we have our own personal space requirements around our cars.

So we get mad when others are on our tail, or we are cut up by an overtaking car because our space is being invaded. To cope with these momentary stressful episodes, try mentally projecting or visualising your car space zone as a large, protective coloured bubble of light. If somebody gets too near, just imagine that they are still outside your "bubble." And if just cut up, redraw your "bubble" as awhole.

Improving your posture

Start by learning how to sit and drive with as little tension in your body as possible. Being able consciously to release the build-up of physical tension will help you deal with stress. Follow these guidelines given by the Alexander Technique, a well-known method of reducing physical tension mainly through improving posture.

Make sure you are sitting well, with a good back support. Ideally you should be able to feel your bottom supported — not sagging into a squidgy mess. Think of your back as being nice and long against the car seat.

Try keeping your neck relaxed, head poised on top of the spine. Pay attention to how you use your eyes — wrong mirror positions can cause neck tension. Also try rolling your eyes up and down and from side to side after a long stretch of driving, to relieve neck and facial tension.

Your feet and legs should not strain to reach the pedals, so adjust the seat where necessary. Knees should neither be banging against the steering wheel or too straightened out. Your thighs should be supported by the seat too.

Keep your left foot flat on the floor between gear changes — to help release the ankle joints — and try to rest the right foot as well in the same way at traffic lights.

Your hands should rest on the steering wheel, not grip it manically. Try softening the fingers so that they curl round the wheel, then making sure your arms are relaxed and your shoulders are not up to your ears.

Traffic jams

Get interested in your posture as a way of coping with traffic jams. Also, try this breathing exercise: smile, let your jaw hinge open, place the tip of the tongue at the bottom of the lower teeth, and let a whispered 'ah' sound come out. This is good for breathing and used by Alexander teachers to get people to breathe and speak more easily.

During traffic jams, gently massage your temples and eyebrows with your thumbs and fingers. If you are getting tense, try breathing deeply, and massage the back of your neck, paying particular attention to the base of the skull.

When you get the chance, stop and go for a brisk walk — exercise will defuse your stress levels. And for relaxing in-car music, try *Time to Relax* (CRS Records £6.99, W.H. Smith) or self-improvement tapes from New World Cassettes (0198 678 1682), which will transform your traffic jam time into a de-stressing experience.

Is overwork driving you to change your car far too often?

Stop raging and smile, says stress counsellor

Stressed-out motorists are chopping and changing their cars in an effort to soothe their frazzled nerves. The car-swap syndrome is a key symptom of drivers unable to cope with the pressures and tensions of their personal and professional lives, experts believe.

Behind the urge to trade in one car and get behind the wheel of yet another one, is stress. Changing one's car — like swapping hairstyles — gives those suffering from stress the illusion that they are once again in control of their runaway lives, says Duncan Christie-Miller, whose company Integrated Project Management advises clients including Renault on tackling stress at work.

Christie-Miller, former Extra Equerry to the Duke of Edinburgh and former Commanding Officer of the Royal Marines Officers' Training, where he gained invaluable experience dealing with stress, says: "Stress is not an illness in itself, but a syndrome of the illness that leads to changes in behaviour.

"The problem is in identifying the signs of stress. That is difficult, since people camouflage those symptoms because they believe stress is a sign of weakness."

Particularly for stressed male executives, one tell-tale sign is the constant browsing through car brochures in the hunt for a car to replace the vehicle that has only just arrived on their drive.

Christie-Miller says: "People are more prone to change their vehicles when they are distressed. Those facing marital problems, who are overworked, bereaved, who are under-valued, have a propensity to seek the instant gratification that a new car can bring.

"People who have problems at work, for instance with overwork, have a tendency to say they are going to change their life, and many do it by changing their car. Men under stress change their characters quite a lot. If they are unhappy they might buy a very visible symbol of male pride and virility.

"In days gone by, perhaps, people might have bought themselves a new horse to give themselves that feeling of power and relief. Today, the pleasure that a new car brings does not last that long. To solve the problem of stress more radical changes in total life-style are needed."

As well as making motoring a very expensive pastime, stress also accounts for about 40 million lost working days every year. Christie-Miller advises those suffering from stress and its symptoms to organise their time more efficiently, exercise in a non-competitive way three times a week, and not to rage at other motorists out on the road.

Rather than shouting and gesticulating at the infuriating antics of other road-users, he recommends a simple smile: "It really does work and achieves instant results."

VAUGHAN FREEMAN

NEWS SUMMARY

Cheap and filling

Southend-on-Sea is the cheapest fuel-stop in Britain, according to PHH Allstar. The company checked transactions by 500,000 drivers to discover that the Essex seaside town offered unleaded and four-star petrol 12p below the national average of £2.44 and £2.69. Diesel was also 15p cheaper at £2.31. Dover remains most expensive for four-star and unleaded.

Daewoo takes the lead

Daewoo, the ambitious South Korean carmaker, shot into the sales charts in its first month in Britain with 1,503 sales, 1.08 per cent of the industry's April registrations, ahead of Mazda, Mitsubishi, Proton and Seat among others.

Meals instead of wheels

Citroën has turned one of its old factories into a theme restaurant (00 31 45 57 89 14) next to the Parc André Citroën, named after the company founder.

Renault adds extras

Renault has poured features into the Clio Champs Elysees special edition, which gets a 60-watt hi-fi with compact disc player, alloy wheels and the offer of zero per cent finance, all for £9,790 (three-door) and £10,195 (five-door).

Sales on track

Jonathan Palmer, former McLaren-Honda test driver and the voice of motor racing on BBC, has been hired to take would-be buyers of Honda's 170mph NSX sports car on white-knuckle rides around the Brunningthorpe circuit in Leicestershire to promote lagging sales of the NSX.

New addition

Cliff Richard, evergreen entertainer, has invested in a £19,000 Renault Espace RT turbo-diesel. The people-carrier joins a Rolls-Royce, Range Rover and a Mercedes SL sports (registration MOVE IT) in the Bachelor Boy's fleet.

On yer bike

Live like a Royal for a day — at up to £80 an hour — with a chauffeur-driven car from Jack Barclay, the world's biggest Rolls-Royce dealer. Unfortunately, there is also a £2-a-mile charge too. Never mind, back to the bike.

The car equivalent of a jumble sale, the autojumble, is on this weekend

Everything but the car boot

If you have been searching for a missing hubcap, hankering after a chrome mascot or desperate for a manual to service your prized classic, this could be the weekend you strike lucky.

For today and tomorrow, the grounds of the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu, Hampshire, will be filled with more than 750 stands selling just about every conceivable car part, from ashtrays to cylinder blocks and probably a number of unrecognisable relics, too.

The Spring Classic Autojumble marks the start of the classic car season, when cherished vehicles are taken out of winter storage, spruced up and readied for another summer on the open road. It is an ideal opportunity for the owner who wants to buy their much-loved motor a little something extra.

The stallholders are an extraordinary bunch known as "autojumblers". "Some are real characters. The only trouble is they will never admit to having a good day. When we go round and ask how they got on they always just say 'OK'. But they nearly always come back," Lesley Ann Harnett, of Beaulieu, says.

"We will have lots of traditional junk. I hate to call it junk because to somebody else it's treasure." Where these characters get their stock is frequently a closely guarded secret. There are obviously still a surprising number of ill-considered trifles lurking in garages and scrapyards around Britain.



Autojumblers: A breed apart who keep sources secret

This year's autojumble will have a number of other features. On Saturday evening there is a Christie's auction of collectors' cars featuring a rather special Renault. The 1906 20/30hp limousine was the first car bought by Lord Montagu when he founded the museum in 1953. Owned until then by the Christian family from nearby Otterbourne in Hampshire, its towering coachwork made it too tall for exhibition inside Beaulieu and it was kept in the estate yard in the village and brought to the museum for display on fine days. Its unusual coachwork was built to its original owner's design to accommodate his habit of driving in a top hat. The interior is modelled on that of a first-class French railway carriage.

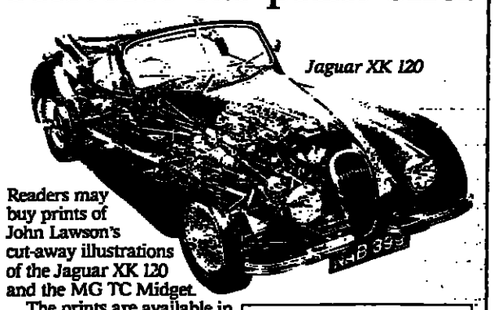
Lord Montagu says: "The decision to part with the car has not been taken lightly. Recently, the National Motor Museum has received the bequest of an almost identical 14hp Renault Laundaulette that was made for Queen Alexandra and was later used by King George V. Due to a shortage of space, both cars cannot be kept and displayed at the museum."

Admission to the sale is strictly by catalogue. Admission to the rest of the autojumble goes along with admission to the museum and Palace House. It is billed as Britain's "second largest autojumble" and is expected to attract more than 15,000 visitors — the largest is the International Autojumble also held at Beaulieu in September, which features more than 2,000 stalls and brings in more than 40,000 visitors.

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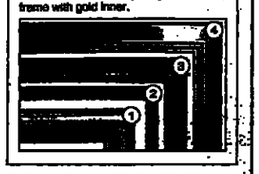
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93L M3 CPE Sterling silver/black lthr, elect sliding roof, front centre arm rest, white indicators, alarm, mats, flaps, rear head restraints, 35T £29,995
94M M3 conv cosmos blk, light gry lthr, GTS, black hd, front arm rest, BMW alarm, tracker 7T £39,995
94 M 520iSE Grnt/Slvr Alys Fogs E.Rf 9T £21,495
93 L 530i V8 Auto Touring, Alpine/Amth, Air Con. Alloys, 15T £27,995
94 L 540i V8 Touring Orient/Amth, E Roof, Fogs, F.S.H. 15T £34,995
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Top of the range: BMW expects to sell 125 of the £69,000 750iLs in Britain this year

Luxury market gets a new lease of life

Rumours of the death of the luxury car are premature. It has been diagnosed fit, well and with a life expectancy well into the next century, at least by BMW, which expects to take 125 British orders, worth £9 million, for its range-topping 750iL this year. The company is confident it will sell even more of the 5.4-litre V12s in this country next year (Anthony Lewis writes).

Demand for luxury cars — and BMW counts its competitors in this class as Jaguar, Mercedes-Benz and even Bentley — peaked at 18,000 in 1988, and has since declined by half. However, sales in the sector this year are already up by 40 per cent, thanks largely to Jaguar's revitalised XJ series, but with BMW holding a firm second place.

It's a rarefied world of motoring, and if you've ever wondered what life at the top is like, I can tell you that it's really rather pleasant.

The extra five-and-a-half inches in length which the 750iL boasts over the standard 7-series are only really apparent when you open the larger rear doors, to be greeted by acres of plush carpet, leather and leg space.

The rear seats are electrically adjustable and heated: there are blinds on the rear window (electric, of course) and on the side windows, which are double-glazed for extra quietness.

As you would expect from BMW, the car is a technological tour de force, boasting more computer power than it probably took to fly man to the moon. The automatic air-conditioning can


News on the move: the on-board TV system

be pre-set to turn itself on to ventilate the car twice a day, so you can step from home or office and slip into something cool or warm, depending on the season.

There is a liquid crystal display television screen which doubles up as the on-board monitor, navigation system (due in Britain next year and already live in Germany), and fine tuning for the 14-speaker 400-watt hi-fi system.

There's a built-in digital telephone that works throughout Europe and has a 145-number memory. The television, which will not work when the car is moving for obvious safety reasons, also has access to televised news services, so senior executives on the move need never be out of touch with stock market prices, news or even the weather.

When you've played with all the toys you can go for a drive and enjoy the 326bhp available from the 5.4-litre V12 engine, even on wet mountain roads, thanks to the latest generation anti-skid system that prevents understeer or oversteer by limiting power output, even applying brakes to individual wheels if necessary to help keep you on the straight and narrow.

The 750iL is uncannily quiet and eerily quick. There were moments when I wished I could have heard the glorious roar of the V12 more clearly. The five-speed automatic gearbox adapts itself to individual driving styles, and you only need to turn the key briefly to the start position to activate the electronics which will then start the engine automatically.

While life at the top might be tough, it obviously has its compensations. Put the chauffeur on half pay and enjoy not just the luxury and comfort but the sheer dynamic brilliance of BMW's finest.

The 750iL costs £69,450; a standard wheelbase 750i is £64,450. For £54,000, there's a long wheelbase 740iL using a 4.0-litre V8 engine with a reduced specification.

Hilton Holloway on why there is such demand for BMW's mould-breaking Compact

Hatch open to a lucky few

I have just spent a week in what I think is Britain's most exclusive car. An Aston Martin, a Ferrari, the mythical McLaren F1? No — a BMW; and what's more, the company's cheapest model, yours for as little as £13,650.

Or at least it would be, if you could find one for sale. The BMW Compact, launched here last October, is probably the nation's most sought-after new car. Stride into a dealer and slap down the cash and it's unlikely he'd be able to deal. The waiting list currently runs into the autumn, and rumours abound in the trade of hefty premiums being paid on second-hand Compacts, especially the up-market 318Ti.

So what's all the fuss about? Well, the Compact is basically a shortened (by 9in) 3-series saloon, given three doors, a handy hatchback and, thanks to the unchanged wheelbase, the same amount of interior space. It's also the first BMW hatch since the short-lived 2002 Touring of the mid-1970s and the only rear-wheel drive hatchback on the market.

The Compact delivers what hasn't been around for a few years: practical prestige. Since the demise of the lithe Mk2 Golf and the coolly understated old-shape BMW 3-series, the one-time yuppie car has all but disappeared, rather like the yuppie. However, in tune with the young and upwardly mobile of the 1990s, the Compact is utterly discreet. It's also sensibly (though modestly) powered, beautifully made and all the contemporary safety and environmental accoutrements are standard (airbag, ABS, side impact bars, immobiliser). Furthermore, because it's not a "hot hatch", the insurance grouping is a manageable 10.

Oddly, the public and the mainstream motoring press are at odds over the desirability of the Compact. After trumpeting its arrival, enthusiast hacks have become rather sniffy about the cut-down Beamer, partly because they

HILTON HOLLOWAY


"It's a winner": Roger Sedgwick-Rough, who normally drives a Porsche RS or Audi S2, was won over by the BMW

felt it was a compromise version of the bigger saloon. So who's right? Has the public been sold a glossy dummy or is the Compact the definitive car for the '90s, as sales on the Continent would suggest? I borrowed a basic 316i to find out.

I loved it, and everybody who encountered the Compact fell for its discreet charm. Its main advantage over the opposition is that it is a less expensive version of an upmarket range; rivals tend to be dressed-up versions of budget cars. Consequently, the Compact possesses a superbly weighted quality feel that nothing else can touch at this price. Everything from the beautifully designed steering wheel to the engine bay layout shouts class. True, the truncated rear can look a little odd, but it does house a useful-sized boot without encroaching on passenger space at the back.

Fit and finish is immaculate, as is the design philosophy. The new dashboard is a lesson in crisp logic.

> 'I love it. It's very subtle. I want one — now'

Corner cutting? Well, the push-pull light switches look and feel out of place, but aside from that, the Compact makes the inside of other hatches look either hopelessly dated or gimmicky. In and out of town, it was hard to criticise the car. Those crucial 9in off the tail make squeezing into supermini-sized parking spaces that much easier and it looks so appealing amid the ranks of everyday hatches. This is a shopping trolley with presence. On the motorway, it was far fleeter than the modest 102bhp might suggest, the Autobahn-bred high speed cruising ability shining through.

Roger Sedgwick-Rough, an enthusiast with a taste for German exotica, gave the Compact a thumbs-up after warming up in his 1973 Porsche 911 RS. "It's a lovely car. It feels so solid and handles beautifully. It's going to be a winner."

The BMW wasn't even shamed by his Audi S2 estate in terms of perceived quality. Roger's Golf-owning and hard-driving niece, Claudia, was bowled over. "I love it: the sound of the engine, the solidity and the room and comfort in the back. It's very subtle and doesn't say 'I'm flash'. I want one — now."

Just 5,000 Compacts, which come with a three-year warranty, will be imported this year, and the car is likely to hold its value better than any other on the UK market. In three years time, sold privately, you could get as much as 89 per cent of your money back, according to one trade magazine. A mainstream hot hatch is unlikely to retain more than 50 per cent.

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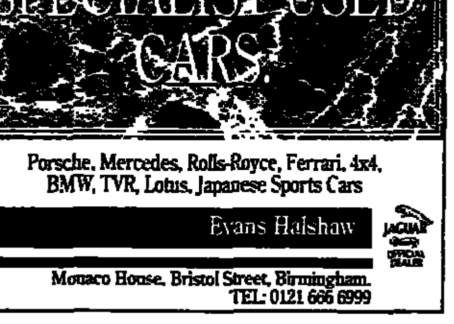
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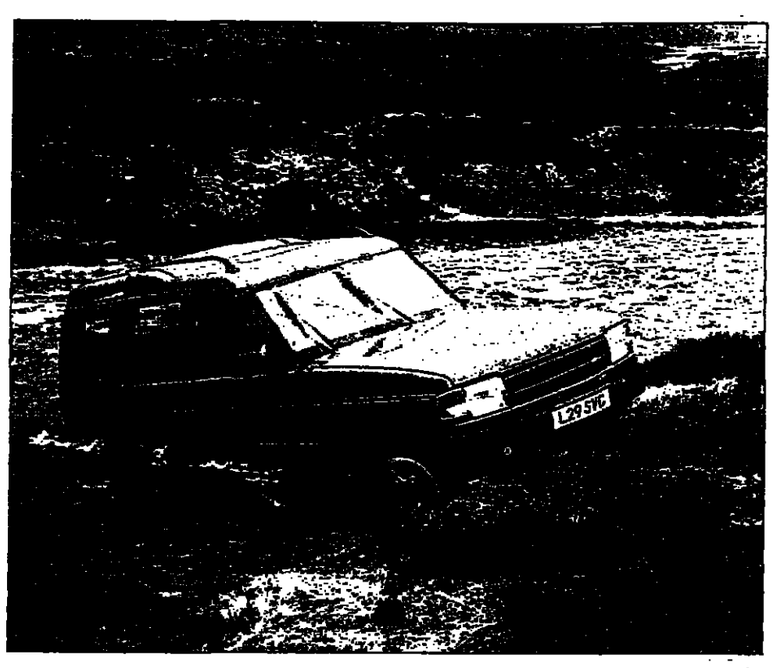
هكذا من الأصل

Vaughan Freeman samples one of Land Rover's off-the-wall holidays for serious off-roaders

Swap sun and sea for mud and mire







Channel crossing with a difference: a Land Rover battles along the tough "Scottish Adventure" route

So you want a holiday with a difference? How about a few days slurping through mud, wading through raging rivers and hauling bogged-down vehicles out of the mire? That is the latest offer from Land Rover.

The off-road specialist is confident such tough-guy vacations will prove a success with cossetted customers willing to pay £40,000 and more for the ultimate in air-conditioned, fully automatic, four-wheel-drive luxury.

As well as the Scotland trek, a holiday across the Hannibal Trail, over which the great Carthaginian general once led his elephants, and which leads off the skiing slopes of Val d'Isère in France, is being organised. Also, this summer the first Land Rover Safaris begin through Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana.

One of the holidays being developed will entail Range Rover, Discovery and Defender owners battling their way across the network of 18th-century military Wade Roads that criss-cross Scotland.

The "Scottish Adventure" will enable Land Rover owners to drive through countryside inhabited only by deer, rabbits and ramblers on the 143,000-acre Blair Castle Estate, an hour's drive north of Edinburgh, and home and fortress of the Earls and Dukes of Atholl for seven centuries.

The estate is criss-crossed by the road network devised by General George Wade to allow troops to travel quickly during the Jacobite rising. Today the roads are barely discernible, covered in moss and mud, and follow terrain that is totally inaccessible to ordinary cars.

A trial trek along the route reveals that mud slopes of one-in-three are common, as are stretches of ankle-deep mired peat and rivers in full spate. Most of the day was spent driving so slowly between boulders and over deep mud craters that the speedometer hardly flickered. At the convoy's head, Roger Crathorne, Land Rover's product training manager, walked on to see whether the route was driveable. By the end of the day, every vehicle had got bogged down at some stage and had needed towing out.

Mr Crathorne said: "We wanted to find a place where people had not driven for many years, to demonstrate what can be done in our vehicles. When driving off-road in these arduous and constantly changing conditions, it is vital to ensure that the rules, and well-proven techniques and skills, are followed. Speed is to be avoided. We know our techniques work — that is why we have been given special permission to use the military and estate areas of Blair Castle."

Though the going may be tough during the day, at night adventurers on the French and Scottish holidays will enjoy five-star accommodation on a par with the exclusive Victoria Falls Hotel and the secluded Tongabezi riverside lodge which feature in the itinerary of the Land Rover Africa Safari holidays.

Prices for the holidays in France and Scotland have yet to be finalised. Prices for the African Safari, run in association with holiday specialists Abercrombie and Kent and with a maximum of only three vehicles on each nine-day trip, range from £2,700 for the Defender Safari in Zambia to £5,107 for the Range Rover Safari in Botswana.

Discounts will be available to Land Rover owners, with the Botswana safari only open to existing owners.

To reassure those tempted to sign up, would-be adventurers will be offered training in serious off-road driving, and all holiday convoys will be accompanied by experts in four-wheel-drive motoring. Training will be on the 5,000-acre Eastnor Castle estate near Ledbury in Herefordshire, and vehicles for the holidays and tuition will be supplied by Land Rover.

Company spokesman Colin Walkey said: "Today the car is very much part of the owner's lifestyle and we are selling that whole package. We recognised from past events we have organised that we were giving people the sort of adventure that money couldn't buy. From that was born the idea of us as a car company going into the holiday business."

Land Rover Safari desk: 0171-730 9600

Prove your prowess in good company



The 2-litre Primera SLX: the tests will include driving the car at speed, through cones, and through a skid

It is frustrating, frightening and infuriating — but still fun to try to complete the tests in our search for the Company Car Driver of the Year.

We need 120 teams to do battle for the honour of one of motoring's most prestigious titles. Although the tests will be tough, they will also be rewarding, and drivers will discover they can have a good time at the wheel even when stress levels soar.

Drive Tech, one of Britain's top driver training schools, will check the skills of our entrants, while Nissan is providing a fleet of 2-litre Primeras for the tests.

While roadcraft will be a premium skill, it is not the only test drivers face at the regional heats. Their judgment will also be put under the microscope. Drivers have to guide a Primera, fitted with a large saucer on its bonnet in which there is a ball, through a maze of cones: the art is to keep the ball in the saucer and still negotiate the course against the clock. It is like being released into a fairground arcade game .... but this game uses real cars and racks up points which could be vital to getting through the heat and into the final of our contest, sponsored jointly by *The Times* and Lease Plan, Britain's leading fleet management company.

Drive your way to a free holiday for two in Europe

Chris Howell, Drive Tech's founder, says: "The level of concentration among drivers in this test last year was wonderful. They were all treating it as seriously as Nigel Mansell driving at Monaco and having a tremendous amount of fun."

For many, driving the £15,000 Nissan Primera SLX will be part of the treat, for the British-built model has won an enviable reputation around Europe as one of the best cars in its sector, its 2-litre power pack capable of pushing the car to a top speed of 127mph.

However, there is plenty of comfort, too, particularly for drivers who will be expected to cover a tough road course under the watchful gaze of Drive Tech's highly qualified examiners. At the end, they will be given a report on how they performed so they can improve their driving skills.

THE TIMES Lease Plan Company Car Driver 1995

There is more to come for the drivers good enough to qualify for the final at Silverstone, home of the British Grand Prix. They will be driving the Primeras on the famous track at high speeds on manouevring courses, as well as covering roads with examiners.

They will be expected to be able to negotiate hazards at high speed and cope with a skid, all watched by John Watson, the former McLaren Formula One racer, whose Silverstone Driving Centre will be carrying out the exacting tests.

For the winner, the prize is an expenses-paid touring holiday for two in Europe in a car provided by Lease Plan, plus £500 in spending money. The winning company will also get free training for a dozen of its drivers.

Entrants already range from a team of paramedics to workers from Ericsson, one of the top mobile telephone companies. Six regional centres have been chosen (see left), so there will be a heat near you.

We are delaying the closing date by a week because of demand. So enter now.

THE TIMES

LEASE PLAN COMPANY CAR DRIVER 1995

Company .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

..... Position .....

Entrant .....

Entrant should be the director/senior manager responsible for your company's car fleet.

Tel No ..... Fax No .....

Nature of Business .....

No of employees ..... No of company cars .....

Nominated drivers

Surname ..... Age .....
Forename(s) .....
Job title .....
How long employed ..... yrs Points on licence .....

Surname ..... Age .....
Forename(s) .....
Job title .....
How long employed .... yrs Points on licence .....

Surname ..... Age .....
Forename(s) .....
Job title .....
How long employed ..... yrs Points on licence .....

Surname ..... Age .....
Forename(s) .....
Job title .....
How long employed .... yrs Points on licence .....

Please select one first and one second choice for the location and date of your team's regional heat (indicate your selection by placing a 1 or 2 within box):

Oxford, (Moat House), 8th June ☐
Nottingham, (Moat House), 14th June ☐
Hereford, (Moat House), 28th June ☐
Ware, Hertfordshire, (Briggens House Hotel) 12th July ☐
Glasgow, (Moat House International), 22nd June ☐
Blackburn, (Moat House), 4th July ☐

Please ensure that you and your nominated drivers are available on both your first and second choice and for the final at Silverstone on Friday, 11th August. Initial qualification will be by telephone questionnaire. Entrants and drivers will be contacted on an individual basis.

Send completed entries by 24 May, 1995 to: The Times - Lease Plan Company Car Driver 1995, Leedex PR, 52-54 Broadwick Street, London W1V 1FF

COMPETITION RULES

The closing date for entries is 24 May 1995. Drivers must be over 24 years of age to enter. Maximum number of endorsements on any competitors' driving licence is three points. Drivers must bring their current driving licence to their regional heat for confirmation of the above. Drivers must be nominated by the director or senior manager responsible for the company car fleet. Drivers must be nominated in groups of three. Companies can only enter one team to compete. The entrant may nominate him/herself as part of the team. Competitors must drive a company car or vehicle as part of their employment or remuneration package. Qualification for the team/company award will be dependant on a written test, to be completed by the entrant at their team's regional heat. Employees of Lease Plan, DriveTech, Nissan, News International and the Birkdale Group are not permitted to enter. In the spirit of the event, specialist organisations such as driver training companies, police, the armed forces and the like may not be permitted to enter. A place in the regional heats will be confirmed by post, at least ten days prior to the heat. In the event of over subscription, qualification to the regional heats will be judged through a driver telephone questionnaire. If the team does not qualify for the regional heat, the entrant will be informed in writing prior to the first heat and the team will be placed on a reserve list. Feedback on each driver's performance will be available after the competition. The reserve driver will be called upon at the regional heat should one of the first three drivers be unable to compete. In the event of a finalist not being able to attend, the next highest scoring driver from that regional heat will be invited to attend in their place. The prize for the winner will be a seven day European motoring holiday for two. The team/company prize will be a driver programme for twelve employees. Cash alternatives are not available. The judges's decision is final.

Alan Copps on a wheelchair that is also a car seat

Boon for disabled drivers

A WHEELCHAIR that converts into the front seat of a production saloon is among the innovations which will be on show this weekend at the Mobility Roadshow Exhibition.

The show takes place at the Transport Research Laboratory in Crowthorne, Berkshire, together with several other automotive events including, by way of contrast, a gathering of VW Golf GTi enthusiasts.

The CarChair, made by the Sussex-based firm Constables, converts to either the driver's or front passenger seat. The makers say it offers disabled drivers total freedom of mobility by enabling them to get themselves in and out of a vehicle without having to leave their wheelchair.

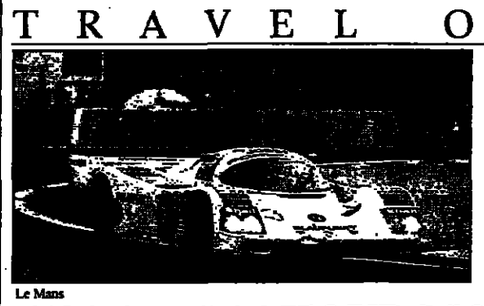
A lifting post is located on the inside of the door of a converted car, and the wheelchair user reverses the specially-designed seat alongside it. Using a simple hand-held control, the disabled driver can then use the post to raise the CarChair off the ground, turn it around and lower it into the well of the vehicle. This saves the driver or passenger having to exchange seats and avoids the undignified business of being manhandled into position.

There is an optional gadget which, at the touch of a button, will retract the wheels of the chair before it is lowered into the car. The system has been crash-tested in the United States and the company claims that its sophisticated ergonomic design offers exceptional comfort.

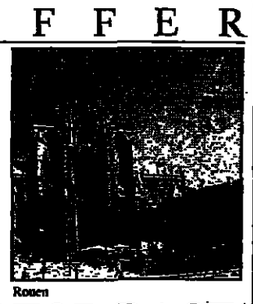
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THE TIMES

TRAVEL OFFER



Le Mans



Rouen

LE MANS 24 HOUR MOTOR RACE

Departing Friday 16 June 1995

3 NIGHTS FOR £139

Le Mans motor race has everything for the enthusiast, as well as for those who simply want to experience this prestigious event.
The fastest cars in motor racing compete on June 17 and 18, in this ferocious 24 hours contest. You can experience the sensational spectacle as they race against one another at more than 200 miles per hour, battling for pride of place on the winners' rostrum.
A virtual town is built around the race circuit, and contributes a superb carnival atmosphere with an abundance of restaurants, food stalls and bars; along with a wide variety of shops and huge fun fair complex.
Our weekend offers you luxury coach travel to and from central London, return ferry crossing from Dover to Calais, one night's accommodation in a twin-bedded room with continental breakfast at a 3-star hotel in Rouen, general admission to Le Mans circuit, coach comfort facilities during the time spent at the race and services of a tour manager.
Not included in the price of £139 is insurance of £9.90 and all meals, with the exception of breakfast in Rouen.
For more information, simply complete and post the coupon or telephone our reservation staff on 01580 715222.

ITINERARY

Friday, 16 June:
Depart Central London by luxury coach at approximately, 9.30 a.m. for Dover - Calais ferry crossing. Arrive Rouen late afternoon for overnight stay.
Saturday, 17 June:
Depart Rouen for onward journey to Le Mans, arriving in plenty of time for the 4.00 p.m. race start. The coach remains at the circuit for your use during the 24 hour race.
Sunday, 18 June:
Following the race, drive back to Rouen for a meal stop before travelling on to Calais for a late night ferry.
Monday, 19 June:
Arrive Central London at approximately 7.00 a.m.

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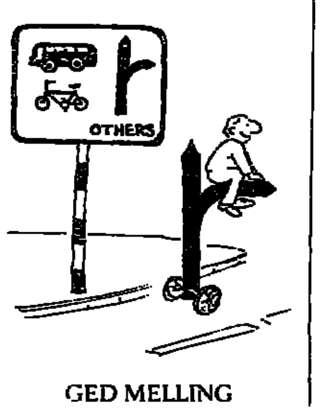
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CAR... TOONS









GED MELLING

Hi-tech systems are being needlessly replaced at high cost, reports **Vaughan Freeman**

Garages in computer 'con'

Garages have been accused of "blinding motorists with science" and overcharging them by hundreds of pounds to replace needlessly or repair parts, especially computer components.

The claim, by company car firm Fleet Management Services, comes as the AA reveals that poor workmanship by garages is the biggest worry for motorists, accounting for 40 per cent of all complaints to the AA's technical advice department. That is more than twice the number of complaints for the next biggest concern for drivers — garage overcharging.

Derick Perkins, maintenance control director at Fleet Management Services, says many garages are not spending enough on training. "Courses are available on auto electronic diagnostic skills from the manufacturers, but these are not being taken up in great numbers," he said. "Garages are continuing to keep training as a low priority — a habit learned during the recession — and prefer to replace an on-board computer rather than educate staff on how to diagnose the fault.

"The upshot is that the motorist has to pay for the mechanic's ignorance of automotive electronics. Bills range from £60 to £300 for the replacement of an electronic ignition system, to £800 for a fuel injection computer, or well over £1,000 for an engine control unit.

"Considering the investment main dealers make in providing specialist test equipment, it is disappointing that often they train only one person to operate that equipment."

The concern goes beyond electronic and computer-related repairs. The AA's Consumer Protection for Motorists report, published in association with the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, says: "There is a small minority of garages which, because of shoddy workmanship and deceitful practices, gives the trade a bad name.

"Implicit in many of the comments made by chief trading standards officers is the feeling that motorists may have of losing control as they hand over the keys. Increasingly, consumers are suspecting, car servicing is not being carried out correctly. In particular, they suspect dishonesty in overstating repair work that needs to be done.

"There has probably been an increase in complaints about the fitting of unnecessary parts at service depots. The norm seems to be that a fitter, while renewing an exhaust or fitting a new tyre, will report that the shock absorbers need replacing."

Retail Motor Industry Federation

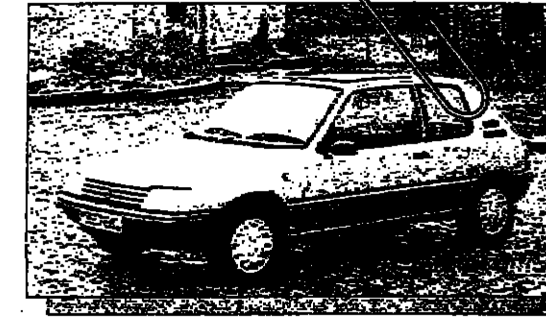
To reassure motorists and members, the AA has just announced a radical shake-up of its system for approving and vetting garages. Under its new Approved Garage scheme, premises will be vetted twice a year to ensure the highest standards of service at the fairest price.

Chris Warwick, AA technical services manager, said: "Each garage outlet will be inspected and assessed on its own merits, which means there will be no blanket approval for chains."

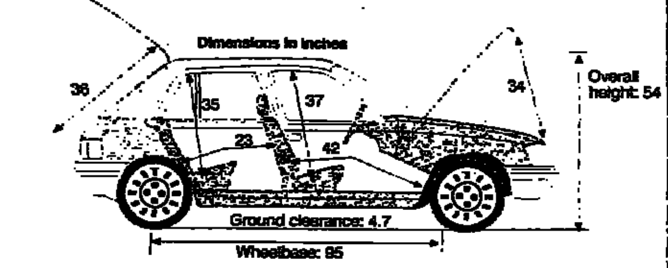
The Retail Motor Industry Federation has 12,500 members, who are checked regularly. Spokeswoman Sue Robinson says: "By using a garage that is an RMIF member, motorists can, if there is a problem, approach our national conciliation service for negotiated redress.

"RMIF members have to meet standards set by us, and abide by our code of practice and our quality control. From the consumers' point of view, it is clearly in their interests to use an RMIF garage to reduce the chance of problems in the first place, and give them a come-back should there be any disagreements."

USED CAR BRIEF



PEUGEOT 205
More than 11 years after the Peugeot 205 was introduced, the car still looks modern and full of zest. Its style and design has had a clear influence on rival models, as well as on its Peugeot 106 and 306 successors. Launched in five-door form originally with 1.0, 1.1, 1.4, and 1.6-litre petrol engines, as well as a 1.8-litre diesel. The three-door XE, XL and XR models first arrived in 1985, and in January 1987 came the 130bhp, 1.9-litre GTi, a car with demon performance and now much sought after. Cosmetic changes introduced in 1990 included new bumpers and rear panels.



GOOD NEWS: Considered one of the best small cars ever. A stylish car with a wide range of engines, and a reputation as being fun to drive. Used values hold up well and the 1.8-litre diesel in particular "runs for ever".

BAD NEWS: The sporting reputation of the GTi and its storming performance means such cars must be checked carefully for crash damage. Also make sure insurance premiums are not prohibitively high.

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay around 1,750 for a 1986 D-reg Junior 1.0-litre three door, 3,750 for a 1989 F-reg 1.4 GR five-door, 6,500 for a 1993 K-reg XL 1.6i three door, and 5,500 for a 1991 J-reg GTi.

INSURANCE: Fully comprehensive cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1990 205 XL will cost a 55-year old male or female professional, with full no claims bonus, living in Winchester, £99 a year. A 22-year old male with one year no claims living in South London will pay £762, and a similar 22-year old female will pay £695.

TO AVOID: Special editions which though they may have carried a price premium when new, in some cases could be worth less when used than the equivalent basic model. Under-powered 1.0, and 1.1-litre cars, pre-1988 models with disintegrating trim. Double-check spare wheel which is suspended beneath boot and vulnerable to thieves.

LOOK FOR: Eye-catching Roland Garros special edition three-door and cabriolet models. These might cost between £250 and £350 more than the standard 1.4litre car, but dark green metallic paint, low profile tyres and sports seats with leather trim, plus luxury specification make it much desired.

OVERALL: An annoying hot-start problem on the fuel injection models has done little to tarnish the strong reputation of the 205 as an excellent town car, with room for four, and ride, handling, and looks, that are superior to the norm.

SAFETY RATING: In its mini and supermini class the 205 is one of only three cars (the others are the Renault 5 and the Yugo), to score significantly above the category average for safety according to Department of Transport figures.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices include VAT) clutch assembly £150; full exhaust £145; rear shock absorber £165; front brakepads £40; alternator £120; starter motor £115; tyre £45-60.

USED CARS £15,000 - £25,000

MODEL	PRICE Apr-95	PRICE May-95	Chge
Volvo 850 2.0 20V GLT Estate	17395	16850	-3.13
Subaru Legacy 2.0 4 cam Estate	16650	16650	0
Saab 900i 16V Convertible	18095	17750	-1.9
Vauxhall Frontera 2.3 5dr	15150	15150	0
Honda Prelude 2.0 2dr	15095	14550	-3.61
Ford Granada 2.9 Ghia Auto Estate	15295	15295	0
Vauxhall Omega 2.0 GLS Auto 4dr	15450	14995	-2.94
Nissan Patrol GR SLX 5dr	17150	16850	-1.74
Mitsubishi Sigma Auto 4dr	19795	19795	0
Mercedes Benz C180 Classic Auto 4dr	18150	17595	3.05
Audi 100 2.8E Quattro Saloon	17995	17995	0
BMW 320i 4dr Auto	17950	17850	-0.55
BMW 525i 4dr Auto	22250	22250	0
Citroen XM 20si Turbo Estate Auto	15695	15650	-0.28
Ford Maverick 2.7 GLX T/D 5dr	16095	16395	2.05
Honda Legend 4dr Saloon Auto	24000	23750	1.04
Isuzu Trooper 3.21 5dr	17950	18095	0.8
Land Rover Discovery Diesel 3dr	17950	17350	-3.34
Mazda Xedos 6 2.01 V6 SE 4dr Auto	18095	17450	-3.56
Mazda RX-7 Turbo	23550	22500	-5.52
Mercedes Benz E220 Auto 4dr	23095	22250	-3.65
Mitsubishi Shogun V6 5dr 2972cc	22500	22500	0
Peugeot 605 V6 SVE 4dr Auto	15595	15595	0
Renault Espace 2.0 RT Estate 5dr	15950	15795	-0.97
Renault Safrane 3.0 RXE V6 5dr Auto	17595	16995	-3.41
Rover Sterling Saloon 4dr Auto	18350	18350	0
Saab New 900 2.5 V6 SE 5dr	18795	18795	0
Subaru Impreza Turbo 2000	15750	15795	0.28
Toyota New Camry 3.0 V6 4dr Auto	19295	18150	-5.93
Toyota Landcruiser 11 3dr Turbo-D	18995	18895	-0.52
Vauxhall Omega 2.0i 16V CD Estate	16995	16795	-1.17
Volkswagen Corrado VR6 3dr Coupe	18695	18250	-2.38
Volkswagen New Golf 2.8 VR6 5dr	16595	16795	-1.47
Volvo 940 Diesel GLE Turbo 4dr	18495	18195	-1.62
Audi New 80 2.6E Estate 5dr	15750	15895	0.92
BMW 520i Touring Estate Auto	19395	19550	0.79
Daihatsu Fourtrak TDX Ind. 3dr	15650	15950	1.91
Mercedes Benz E250 D 4dr	22500	22500	0
Land Rover Discovery 3.9 V8i S 5dr	20250	19495	-3.72
Isuzu Trooper Citation 3.1 5dr D	22000	22250	1.13
Saab CDE 2.01 Eco power 4dr	18850	17695	-6.12
Honda New Accord 2.3i SR 4dr Auto	14995	14795	-1.33
Chrysler Jeep Cherokee 4.0 Ltd 5dr	20500	20500	0
Chrysler Cherokee 2.5 sport 5dr	15295	15295	0
Mercedes Benz C200 Elegance	20500	20500	0

CAP NATIONWIDE MOTOR RESEARCH LTD

Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices HB = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on L-reg, low mileage cars. Figures supplied by ***CAP Nationwide Motor Research.***

ONE of Britain's biggest dealers is taking steps to cancel out "clockers", rogues who swindle motorists by turning back the milometer to hike up used car prices.

Reg Vardy, based in Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, is to log the mileages of every car it services and sells. The figures go onto a computer database so that Vardy salesmen and mechanics can track the history of a model from the start to the end of its life.

Vardy, which sells 60,000 cars a year, is the first motor group to use the system, in association with HPI-Equifax, which will be available at all its 34 showrooms, plus another five opening this year.

Clocking costs motorists an estimated £100 million a year as they are sold cars which, according to the mileage reading, are good as new but, in fact, have been driven huge numbers of miles. While the bodywork of a modern model can look new, the engine might have suffered enormous wear.

Peter Vardy, chairman, says: "We maintain tens of thousands of vehicles, including cars being prepared for sale. By providing mileage readings on these vehicles, we are taking a step which will assist the fight against clocking, and setting a standard we hope the rest of the industry will follow."

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190D 2.5 Man. 91 J. Sig Red. 44,600 mls. Alarm. T. bar. FMBSH & Warr. PAS. ABS. All extras. Immac cond. £13,450 ono. 01323 641 382 Eve/Wkd.

190 E 1.8 1991 Auto Extras 1 owner Showroom cond. FSH Only 15,000 mls. Private sale £12,500. Tel: 0181 684 2961

190E 2 litre, 1989 G, manual, FSH, main dealer warranty, blue-black metallic, 71,000 mls, new alloys and tyres. £9,250 Tel. 01332 556274 (eves)

190E H reg. 1991. 2 litre, auto, EW, ESR, ABS, etc Blue black color, grey cloth interior, 43,000 mls, FSH, excellent. £12,500 ONO. 0171 435 6222

SL 500
92 Red/cream, 1 owner. FSH, 8 hole alloys, ASR, A/C, CD player, phone.
£50,000
Please ring David Trughan
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420SE
1987 (D), 126,000 mls with full MBFSH. Auto, PAS, central locking.
Our lady Director's personal car. Maintained regardless of cost. Extras include 8 hole alloys, grey leather interior, Metallic Blue paint, cruise, esr, ABS, air con, Becker Grand Prix stereo, remote locking alarm, car phone.
£8,995.
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230E Auto 91 J. White Immaculate 27K miles. FMBSH. Full spec. Alarm. Must be seen. £17,500 Tel 01462 700534

190E 2.6 Auto 1988 (E) Red 78,000 mls, excellent condition, FSH, ABS pus usual extras. £7,850 01273 563400

190 F Reg. FSH Red. Int blue/grey, walnut trim. ESR, 5 Speed Tax/Test July. EFW. £7,299. Tel 01322 823 795

230E 92K Nautic blue, air con, lthr, 8 holes, 38K miles £19,950. 01491 578688 or 0836 268214.T

230E Auto 88 Mdl Silver Met/Blue Int. ESR, E/w, RHR 60k. FSH, Immac £8,750 01702 217509/0860 218636T

280E Black/red lthr. E. Reg Air con S/wheels. RHR. Spoiler Radio/S Excel cond. 90,000 mls £9850. 01245 222871

280SL Sports B reg Metallic bronze, auto, magnificent condition £11,950. 01708 447196/ 0860 809141

300 TE 4-Matic. 4WD. Anthracite, Radio Cassette. Aug 1990 1 Owner. 27,000 mls ESR EW. FMSH. £20,000 Tel h 0161 628 6391. w 01706 881943

300SL 86. White/Buro Hide. 68,000m. FSH. H&S Top. Blaupunkt st. Alarm. Immac cond £15,750. 0956 266200

300 SL
F Reg. Almandine Red, cream leather. Alloys, rear seat, wash wipe, cruise, remote alarm.
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Hard top, FSH. Immaculate condition. 44,000 miles
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0121 705 0499 home

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01734 413454 (w)
0860 207999 (m)

300 SL 1990 LH 35,000 mls. Blue Black. Cream leather. CD, 8 hole alloys. FSH. £42,000 ono Tel. 0181 446 1337/468 5226 (w) 0850 356646

300TE 24v, 90, Red/Grey leather. 7 seats & many other extras. £17,000. Tel. 01926 730670 or 0374 967189

300 SE J. a/con 4 a/r Totally pristine. 72,000 mls service completed, first to view will buy. £18,800 01270 63471

300CE 24V 1990 H. Auto. Sportsline. 44,000 mls Immac. Blue/black, cream leather, air con. full spec. FMSH £24,750 o.n.o 0181 950 8155 (h)/ 0171 772 1320 (w)

300SL
1988 F reg.
Signal red with grey lthr hide, rear seats, FSH, 39,000 mls, lady owner.
First to see will buy!
£22,995
01734 834739

SL 320
7,000 mls, Feb '94, beryl metallic, cream leather, Radio/Cassette, air bags, 8 hole alloys, wind deflector, FSH, cruise, non smoking. Garaged & valeted weekly
£53,900.
Tel: 01780 782451 (H)
01945 583200 (O).

300SL
/24. April 90. 52,600 miles. Air cond. Maroon, leather, heated seats, rear seat, cruise control, radio cassette etc.
Private sale- No dealers..
£39,000.
01695 421691

300TE Auto Est F Reg. 62k mls. FSH, Orig & Perfect Throughout Urgent Sale £11,600 01422 832565/0831 184227 T

300CE Auto (88 E) Ivory/lthr ABR, ESR, Low msp, Alpine, r/cass. 8 spoke alloys. FSH. Outstanding £14,995. 01202 751731 (o)/ 888046 (h)

300 CE auto. F reg. nautic blue/cream lthr, 39K mls. FSH. ESR, sportsline, CD, immac. £18,250 01273 866700.

300SL 93K, Red, cream leather, rear seat, twin air bags, 24,000 miles, alloys, £48,950 AFN Chiswick 0181 742 7000. 0836 659 980 T.

SL280, 94L
1 owner from new
94L, 14,000 mls, Pearl Blue/cream hide, 8 Hole Alloys, a/c, CD, good condition.
£47,750
Tel: 0802 485673
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180C ESPRIT
Manual, L reg, elec. frnt wndws & s/roof, light blue/blue & black int., CD & alarm system.
Mint condition.
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01235 850971

350 SL
1978. Auto. Red/Black Top. Perfect & Mint. All original, maintained regardless. 19,000 miles. Present owner from new. Never been on a wet road. The best one there is.
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Cherished number JC 2002, also if required £5,000.
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300 CE 1989, blueblack, cream hide, htd & elec seats, cruise, 49K mls, FSH, 1 lady owner £18,995. 01983 862286

300 D Auto K Reg Almandine Red, Walnut trim, Rear spoiler, Alloy wheels. MB alarm. 9K miles Absolutely immaculate £22,780 Tel. 01745 720 286.

300 SL 24V 92 K reg 27K Silver, clr coded bumpers, black lthr 8 Hole alloys Rear seat Priv sale - No Trade £47,950. Tel 0181 954 1140 Eve /Wkd

300 SL '91 H reg, red/beige leather, 21,000 mls. FMBSH, full spec, superb condition. £38,000. 0370 264502

300SL Multivalve. New shape. Upgraded to 94 spec. Colour coded white 8 hole £37,800 b/x 0850 334060

300 TE auto, 7 seater estate, '91 J, 64K mls, slate grey metallic, beige cloth, alloys, FMBSH, As new Merc warranty £20 600 Tel. 01925 710697.

320 CE 93K. Very high spec, air con, hide, elec sts, abd, 1 own, 66k, pristine, fmbsh £27,995 0831 406172/01372 749090.

350 SL Sports Gold Metallic D/Brown soft top Rear seats. R/plate Present owner since 1984. Excellent cond £9,000 Tel: 01277 811268 (Essex)

260E
1992 K reg. 14k, excel cond, FMBSH, 1 owner fr new. Grey/grey cloth. Alloys.
£20,950.
500SL
1989 F reg. Stunning. Fully loaded. Only 15k. FMBSH. Aqua Marina/hide int. £30,000.
01322 527628

380 SLC Coupe
X reg. Auto.
Classic Blue, Grey velor trim. Cruise control, air conditioned, PAS, electric roof, car phone.
Good condition, 101 K mls.
£8,995 ono.
01242 574730 (h)
01242 222900 (o)

350 SL 1972 Red/cream leather, rear seats, hard top, history, £9,800 (wkend) 01689 856503/ (off.) 0181 294 2222

380 SL Sept 1980. Personalised number. Gold. Auto. Hard/Soft top. FSH. Cruise control. £10,000. Tel: 01242 883 162

380SLC 81. FHC, auto. Nautique blue. Only 28k mls from new. 1 family owner. Priv sale. £14,000. 01932 864670

420SL Mercedes Sports. F reg. Pearl grey metallic, grey leather with rear seat, FMBSH. 74,000 mls, hard & soft tops, 1 previous owner, maintained regardless of cost. Immac cond. £17,000. 0181 486 7072

420 SE 1990. Only 38K mls. Super cond. Havana Brown/ Cream Hide. Auto. ABS. ESR. EW, FSH, AW. ALR. Best offer secures.01487 773619.

420SE 89 Diamond blue/blue velour, a/cond. elec seats, alloys. 21,000mls. £19,995 Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555.

420SL Auto Convertible. June 1987 D Reg 1 Lady owner Low mileage. £24,500 ono. Tel: 01249 782 861.

450 SL 1978 Silver 96,000 mls. FSH Hard and soft tops. Immac cond inside and out. Divorce forces sale of this cherished car. £11,750 ono 01279 777364

300 SE
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300SL
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420SEC 29,000 miles only. 1 owner. Superb £18,995 inc MB warranty. 0860 261436

500 SL Silver. Air conditioned. 24,000 miles. FSH by main dealer. £47,000. Tel: 01509 890714 or 0802 271191

500 SEC 1990 rudi Blue black/ beige hide. 30,000 miles. FSH. Fully loaded, climate control. ASR. POA. 0181-449 9873

500SL 93K Black/Mushroom hide,air con, plus much more spec 28K miles £58,950. 01491 578688 or 0836 268214

500SL 90H (91 Mdl). Blue met. Cream lthr. full spec. fsh. 48,000m Lancaster 01604 239944 or 0370 473188

560SEC 88 Smoke silver/tan hide, 860 spec+airbag. 38,000mls. mint. £19,995 Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555

190 2.5D Auto 1989. Nautical Blue, Grey Cloth. 69k. 1 owner. FSH. RHR. Immaculate £10,995 PGI Garage 01252 710410 Open Sundays

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C280 Sport. Feb 1995. Tourmaline green Auto Air con 3,500 mls. 1 owner. As new. £30,500. 01226 560976

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E300TD 94M Bl/Blk 7k Lorinser conv. incl Blk hide recaros. l/susp.. whls. c/coded. a/c W/nut. w/w. o.a.g. Cost 50K. Offers c 35K. 0941 119911

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S600 C Blue / Black, Immed UK or Tax free del Details 0171 495 4218 I

SL280 94 M (95 model with ETS) 5-speed Auto Imperial/Beige leather. R/seats. 8 holes. Multi CD FMBSH. 2K mls. £51,700. Tel. 0141 639 1282 eves

420 SEL
Under 40,000 miles. H reg '91. FMBSH. Blue/cream leather. Normal 420 spec. Air con, elec seats.
£22,000
Tel:01222 813458 (O)
or 0860 183539

E220
Cabriolet 1995. M reg. Azurite with mushroom leather, 3,000 miles, headlamp wash wipe, 6 stack CD, alarm, 8 hole alloys. Unmarked.
£41,750.
Tel: 01625 873434 home
0161 4802832 office

SL500 Blue / Black. Immed UK or Tax free del Details 0171 493 4218 I

S280 93L. Pearl blue, sunroof, alloys. 9,000mls. £POA. Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555.

SL 280 24v. 6,000 mls. Metallic Rosewood/Mushroom trim. 93 (L) 8 hole alloys. CD, elec sts. £47,500 Tel: 01709 549989 (sun/eves) 0860 234867

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94M S280 Azurite 14T £43,950
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94 (L) C180 Elegance Polar White, Black Cloth, Auto, Alarm, Stereo 18T £19,995
94 (L) C180 Elegance Silver, Black Cloth, Auto, Alarm, Stereo 12T £19,995
94 (L) C180 Elegance Rosewood, Mushroom Cloth, Auto, Alarm, Stereo 9T £19,995
93L SL320 Silver, Leather, R/Seat, Climate, HFS, 8H Alloys, CD 5T £58,950
94L S280 Midnight Blue, Mushroom Leather, Climate, 8H Alloys ..11T £36,950
93K 230TE Blue Black, 8 Hole Alloys, Rear Seat, FAR, Stereo, Auto .22T £24,950
91H 230TE Blue Black, Cream Tex, Rear Seat, 5 Speed, CD ..38T £18,950
94L E280 Anthracite, Walnut, OTG, A/Bag, Automatic 4T £26,950
93K 280E Anthracite, Walnut, Airbag, Automatic 21T £24,950
90G 260E Almandine, Cream Leather, Air Con, CD, Auto 30T £17,950
94M C250D Elegance Pearl Blue, HLWW, OTG, Auto 5T £24,950
94M C220 Elegance Tourmaline, HLWW, 1st Rear Child Seats, Auto .8T £25,950
93L C220 Sport Brilliant Silver, FAR, EFW, Auto 18T £23,950
94M C200 Elegance Blue Black, Remote Locking, Stereo, Auto ..27T £22,350
94M C200 Elegance Brilliant Silver, Remote Locking, Stereo, Auto ..11T £21,950
94M C180 Elegance Blue Black, Remote Locking, Stereo, Auto ..7T £20,950
92K 190E 2.0 Pearl Blue, E/Sunroof & Windows, Auto 25T £16,950
93K 300SL 24V Signal, Cream, R/Seat, 5 Speed Auto, 8 Holes ..8T £49,995
92K 600SL Signal Red, Black Hide, 8H Alloys, A/Con, R/Seats .27T £57,995
94M S280 Silver, Black Hide, Climate Control (New Model) 12T £41,995
92J 300SE Blue Black, Black Hide, 8 Hole Alloys 46T £21,995
93K 320CE Pearl Blue, Cream Hide, Air Con, 8 Hole Alloys 8T £36,995
93K 300CE Pearl Blue, Cream Hide, Air Conditioning 19T £31,995
92J 300CE 24V Smoke Silver, A/Con, Rear Blind, Elec Seats ..12T £31,995
90H 300CE Smoke Silver, Cream Hide, Alloys 35T £23,995
92K 260E Signal, Black, 8 Hole Alloys, Stereo 24T £21,995
93K 250D Signal Red, Black Cloth, ESR, EW 11T £18,995
93L C250D Elegance Silver, Black Hide, Cruise Control 25T £23,995
94M C180 Esprit 5 Speed Blue Black, Black Cloth, S/Roof 7T £19,495
92K 190E 2.0 Auto Blue Black, Cream Cloth, 4 x EW, ESR 32T £18,495
91H 190E 2.0 Auto Signal Red, Grey Cloth, ESR, 4 x EW, A/C .25T £14,995
92K 190E 1.8 Auto Pearl Blue, Cream Cloth, ESR, EFW 26T £14,995
93L 190E 1.8 5 Speed Signal, Grey Cloth, ABS, Airbag, MSR ..19T £15,995
91J 190E 1.8 Auto Beryl, Black Cloth, ESR 28T £13,495
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230CE (J) 92 Blue Black/Black Cloth, Auto, 8 Holes, Cruise 27T £23,950
E220CE (M) 94 Malachite/Cream Hide, Walnut, R/Heads, 8 Holes 7T £30,950
260E (J) 92 Nautic Blue/Cream Cloth, E/Seat, Walnut 26T £20,950
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E280 (L) 94 Midnight Blue/ Grey Cloth, Auto, Sunroof, E/Windows 34T £21,950
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A writer in top gear

Andrew Pierce talks to TV's Lynda La Plante

MICHAEL POWELL



At home in the Range Rover: "I won best female driver. I was the only woman!"

Lynda La Plante is back. Only weeks after the success of *She's Out*, the long-awaited television sequel to *Widows*, La Plante is returning to the small screen. *The Governor*, a six-part series about the first woman head of an all-male prison, begins on ITV at 9pm tomorrow. A book, published by Macmillan, is coming out simultaneously. It is one of the most ambitious projects to date for La Plante, author of *Prime Suspect*. She spent 18 months researching the book and series, which was filmed in a top-security prison in Dublin.

How did you learn to drive?

On the third attempt, the second being the most memorable. I failed virtually before I started the car: a boyfriend's Ferrari Dino. The examiner slid so low in the seat, I followed suit. After the emergency stop, he squeaked that I should return to the centre. I had been speeding in a 30mph zone from the moment the test had begun. I had been looking at the wrong clock!

What was your first car?

A second-hand Mini estate. I painted two huge white daisies on the door. It was smashed to pieces in a hit-and-run in Islington, and the wreckage had been stolen by the time the haulage company arrived. I spotted it two years later in Regent's Park and gave chase. I reported it to the police, who gave me four parking tickets for my trouble.

What do you drive now and why?

A Range Rover. I spent the day test-driving them in mud slides and through deep water. I won best female driver of the day. I was the only woman!

Do you like driving

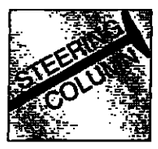
Yes, but not in the West End. I like going to see my brother in Yorkshire, so the Range Rover is good for packing in wellingtons and waterproofs.

What is your dream car?

A Rolls-Royce Corniche. I saw a beautiful pale blue one with white leather upholstery in a garage in Marylebone Road. I went into the garage, sat in the car, and thought ... one day.

What is your most hated car

The one which is riddled with rust, untaxed, belching exhaust fumes and the driver of which is probably not insured. They are the ones which always overtake you on the motorway. They get away with it, while I was given a ticket for even "thinking about" whipping into a bus lane. I saw two uniforms 50 yards ahead, so thought no more, but was stopped and fined for not wearing my seat belt round my shoulder. It was round my waist, as I had just had a shoulder operation. Crawling past were the rust-riddled cars I detest!



What is your worst habit in the car?

I never let anybody smoke — although I smoke myself.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

Horn-tooters. They are second only to mothers collecting their children from school who think they have a right to double park.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?

Rehearsed the score for *Calamity Jane*. I was pulled by a police car, sirens flashing, because someone had seen me on the motorway and thought I was drunk. I was merely trying to reach the top note of "*NOOWWW I shout it from the highest hill*".

Have you ever had points on your licence?

Yes. See above.

What do you listen to in the car?

Opera arias or *Dire Straits*.

If you were Transport Secretary, what is the first thing you would do?

Tax cyclists, particularly those who practise racing in the royal parks.

What is your most hated car advertisement?

Any which uses the female sex. You never see a semi-naked man with glossed lips sprawled over a VW.

TIMES ROAD TEST: the new Ssanyong Musso four-wheel-drive

A worthy Korean contender enters the 4x4 race

Kevin Eason is impressed by an unknown marque



Eastern promise: the Mercedes-powered Musso

FACTS AND FIGURES

Price: £15,999-£20,999. **Engine:** 2.9-litre 94bhp diesel, 5-speed manual (Mercedes automatic a £1,499 option). Electronic four-wheel-drive. **Performance:** 0-60mph in 19.7 seconds; top 91mph. **Fuel consumption:** 24.3mpg in town. **Ins group:** 12/13.

The test was to make a vehicle that would capture the imagination of European buyers and rival Land Rover's best-selling Discovery. The answer? Start with a clean sheet of paper, hire the best designer from Britain, buy the best engine from Germany and make the vehicle in one of the cheapest manufacturing nations on earth.

The result is the Ssanyong Musso. Whichever way you look at it, you have to admire the determination of the South Koreans. They set an agenda to build the best 4x4 on the market and they knew precisely how to go about it.

Ssanyong follows Kia and Daewoo into Britain as a worldwide business almost unheard of here. Ssanyong Business Group, with 25,000 people in 52 worldwide subsidiaries, was restricted to making trucks and military vehicles until it bought the former British sports carmaker, the Panther Car Company, in 1986.

That gave access to Ken Greenley, designer of the Panther Kallista and a man with vast experience in the industry. Director of transportation design at the Royal College of Art, Greenley's list of credits includes Aston Martin's Virage, the new Bentley Azure convertible ... and now the Musso.

His clever touch is immediately apparent in a sector of the market dominated by slab-sided vehicles about as aerodynamic as a housebrick. The Musso sweeps from bonnet to rear like a luxury car — exactly as Greenley and Ssanyong intended. There is no pretence that the Musso is a mighty mud-plugger, for Ssanyong is quite open that it aimed at producing an executive cruiser knowing full well that its owners might own green wellies, but don't want to get them wet.

The ploy so nearly comes off. The package from such a young manufacturer is extremely impressive, from performance up to a sticker price that will attract many prospective buyers.

The 4x4 market is one in which buyers are as status-conscious as they come, so persuading would-be owners that Ssanyong is a badge they will want on the key ring could be tricky. In spite of the drawback of the name, the Musso stands a very good chance because it has so much going for it — that engine for one thing.

Anybody would be reassured to know that a Mercedes diesel was beating under the bonnet, for its high reliability as well as smoothness and performance. Ssanyong buys the five-cylinder, 2.9-litre diesel off the shelf from Germany and mates it to a five-speed transmission with electronic switch to low ratio, and from two-wheel-drive to four. There is not a huge amount of power — only 94bhp — but it's enough to keep the Musso charging along happily on motorways and the company reckons the power pack is gutsy enough to pull a 2,500kg load — plenty for even the biggest caravan.

Ride quality is smoother than many rivals but still prone to roll in corners and the steering wheel is often fidgety, particularly on potholed roads. The interior is comfortable and well laid out, although the Musso's stance as a tall estate rather than a huge 4x4 seems to have cost headroom, and even somebody as vertically challenged as me has a clearance of only a couple of inches to the roof.

As an all-rounder, though, the Musso is a very pleasant surprise which will have the rest of the 4x4 makers looking anxiously over their shoulders. It looks good, performs well and, at prices starting this week at £16,000, is a bargain. The package includes alarm and immobiliser, central locking, locking wheel nuts and powered windows on all models, plus air-conditioning on the £21,000 GSE.

One cute feature that will appeal to women is an automatic lock which engages when the vehicle drives away, to prevent anybody attempting to open the doors at traffic lights — a small feature but one that shows the depth of thought that has gone into the Musso.

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94L CORRADO VR6, Auto, Moonlight Blue, 24,000 Miles, Air Conditioning 1 Owner, Full Service History
94L GOLF GL AUTO, Dusty Mauve, 8,500 miles, Airbags, Elec/Sunroof, Elec/Windows
94L GOLF VR6, 3 Door, Tornado Red, 10,000 miles, 1 Owner, ESH
93K CORRADO 16V, Pitch Red, 51,000 miles, 1 Owner, CD Player
95M CORRADO VR G, Twilight, 5,000 miles, Alloys, Full Spec
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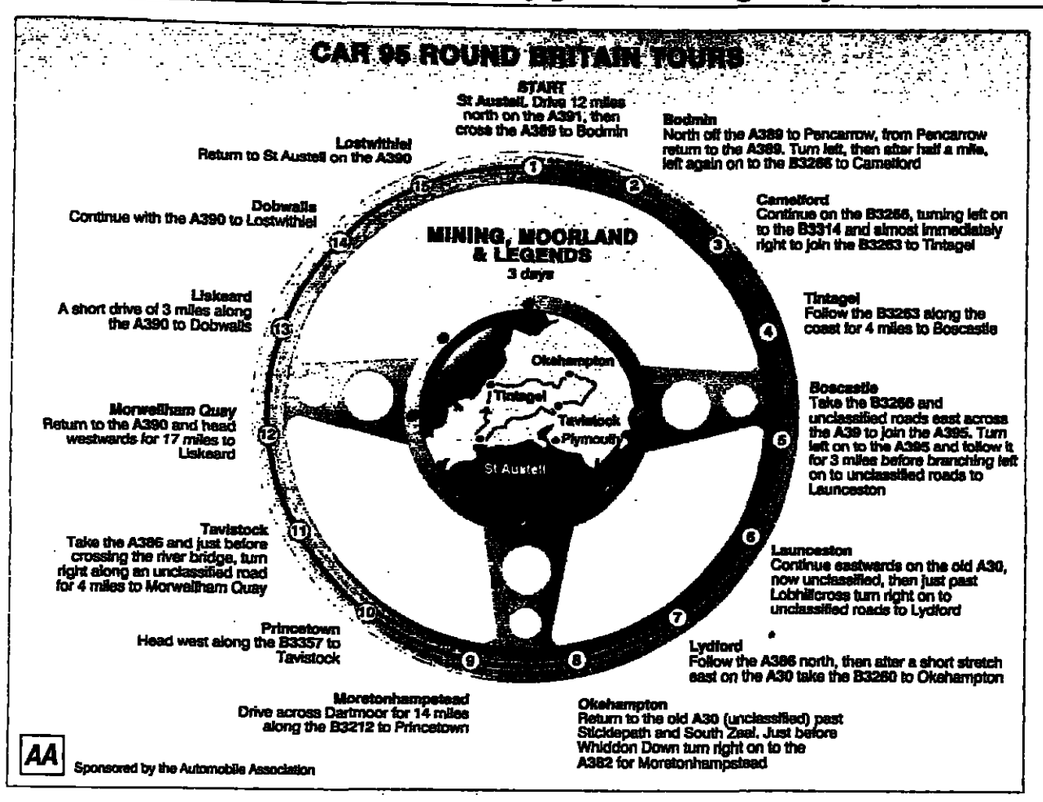
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هكذا من الأصل

Alan Copps continues our weekly guides with a gentle jaunt around the charms of Devon and Cornwall





Part of the ruins of "King Arthur's Castle" at Tintagel, a diamond in the tour area's rich vein of history

Through lunar landscapes to the land of legend

This tour passes through some of the most popular holiday country in Britain. Yet its initial stages after leaving the old market town of St Austell run across a landscape of almost lunar desolation.

For this is the centre of the china clay industry. A must stop is the Wheal Martyn museum, housed in a restored 19th-century clay works, which explains vividly how the landscape was created. The road leads on to Bodmin, the only Cornish town mentioned in the Domesday Book, which nestles below its brooding moor where the traces of history mingle with the modern myth of the "beast of Bodmin". Pencarrow House has impressive flower gardens, a pets' corner for children and an Iron Age encampment.

This area is steeped in Arthurian legend and there are some who press the case that Camelford is really Camelot. The spectacular ruins of Tintagel Castle on a windy promontory are also known as "King Arthur's Castle". There are caverns and a waterfall on the dramatic slate cliffs of the "island", which is really a peninsula.

The atmosphere at Boscastle is dominated by the sea. Its harbour nestles among high cliffs and the sea tide and river occasionally meet explosively just beyond the outer breakwater.

At Launceston, the south gate is the only reminder that this was once a walled town enclosing the ruins of its castle. It has interesting churches and a steam railway that runs into the Kensey valley. Nearby is the Tamar Otter Park, where this rare creature can be seen at close quarters, and the Wild Wood where deer and peacocks roam.

The route now crosses into Devon and returns to mining country, although at Lydford the prize was once tin rather than china clay. It's another of those settlements nestling beneath a castle on the edge of a moor. A mile away is Lydford Gorge, scooped out of the Dartmoor landscape by the river Lyd near the 90-foot White Lady Falls.

Okehampton also has its castle ruin, which guards the highest part of Dartmoor, often used for military exercises. The Museum of Dartmoor here is housed in an old watermill and has informative sections on the mining past and Victorian life.

On the road to Moretonhampstead, close to the heart of Dartmoor, stands the granite mass of Castle Drogo, designed by Edward Lutyens. Further on, at Postbridge, stands the best of the old clapper bridges used by pack horses to carry ore from the mines. But the granite mass which dominates this part of Dartmoor is the prison in Princetown, a forbidding edifice in a bleak place.

Tavistock, birthplace of Sir Frances Drake, was also a mining centre and although largely Victorian, has several interesting older buildings. Some of its mining products were exported via Morwellham Quay, which stands 350ft above the water level and is linked to the river by a curious inclined plane. In Victorian times, it was the most important copper port of the Empire. It is now an impressive open-air museum.

The route now heads back into Cornwall, where there is plenty of entertainment for children. Just outside Liskeard, at St Keyne Station, Paul Corin's Musical Collection includes fairground organs and a mighty Wurlitzer, while further on is the highly-rated Dobwalls theme park.

Our tour ends at Lostwithiel, the tidal limit of the River Fowey. Restormel Castle, dating from the 13th century, is well-preserved and has splendid views over the picturesque Fowey valley.

Based on AA Tour Guide Britain, £9.99, from AA shops, W.H Smith and other booksellers

Treasures of Britain, page 16

DR DASHBOARD

How to help reduce smog

Q All this talk about pollution from exhausts is worrying. We need the car but is there any way we can help cut down smog and pollution?

A There is an obvious answer but you don't want to hear it: don't use the car unless you have to. The less you drive, the less pollution your exhaust pumps out.

Q That is no help because we have to use the car for so many journeys, such as school runs and getting to work.

A That is because dependency on the car has never been greater. The 1994 Lex Report on Motoring discovered four in ten households had more than one car and motorists expected to buy an extra million vehicles in the next two years. Total road mileage could grow by 30 per cent within five years, so more cars on already congested roads looks to be the future.

Q What sort of pollution do cars cause anyway?

A The gases from the exhaust are a complex cocktail, and it is oxides of nitrogen and unburnt hydrocarbons which cause photochemical smog — the grey fog which has triggered asthma attacks and breathing difficulties in thousands of people over the past couple of weeks. Scientists are also worried about diesel fumes which contain sooty particles, thought to be a carcinogen.

Q But we thought diesel cars were more environmentally friendly. All our friends are raving about how economical they are.

A They are almost right. Actually, the Government's health boffins have reservations about diesel because they believe it could be responsible for considerable pollution problems. Diesels use, on average, 25 per cent less fuel than petrol cars, but many new petrol cars with lean-burn engines are almost as economical.

Q *Does that mean* we should stick to petrol?

A Diesels are fine but only the latest cars will be relatively clean. Petrol engines are extremely clean if they are equipped with a catalytic converter, which soaks up 90 per cent of toxic engine gases, particularly nitrogen oxides and unburnt hydrocarbons. Some carmakers, such as Saab, boast that the air that comes out of the tailpipe is cleaner than the air that goes in.

Q So what practical steps can we take to help?

A If you go to the same office every day, share a car with two or three colleagues. Same for the school run: there must be many parents who make the same trip, so why use several cars when one will do?

Q Even if we do that, we still have to use a car and presumably cause pollution.

A Keep your car well tuned because unserviced cars are dirty, use more fuel and pump out more pollution. Diesels also need care and attention or they will foul up and start emitting ugly clouds of smoke. Short journeys in petrol cars are less fuel-efficient, because catalysts do not warm up in time to catch the worst pollutants, whereas diesel cars tend to be better around town. Better still, try something we doctors describe as walking.

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Only the toughest are still in the race for Mexico City

Closed borders no impediment for intrepid rallyists

In the third of his special reports on the 25th anniversary London-Mexico Rally, Roy Dixon, co-driving Tony Fall in a Volvo 142S, reports from Quito, Ecuador, on a week which saw several competitors fall by the wayside.

The teams have now left the deserts of Peru and arrived in the lush alpine countryside of Ecuador. After 19 days hard racing this toughest of rallies is beginning to take its toll and, sadly, friends are being left behind to find their own way home. So far 12 of the 59 starters have given up.

We heard of two retirements by fax. One was from Bill and Eileen Ainscough from Wigan who were forced to call it a day in their 1929 Chrysler 77, the oldest car in the race, after a superhuman effort to cross the Andes. The problem was oil seeping into the clutch.

The other was from George Hampson and Freddie Preston in their Rover 2000 which, apart from attempting to complete the race, was taking Paddington Bear to Lima to raise money for the Cancer Research Campaign. Freddie, reporting a blown engine after leaving Lima on three cylinders, said Paddington had achieved his quest in finding Aunt Lucy but was returning to London without her.

The most miraculous survivors are Major Nick Sharples and Corporal Mick Isted of the Princess of Wales Regiment in their Mark I Escort, who are raising money for the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children. They shattered a differential on Sunday but could not get mechanics to start work until Monday. Once repaired they rushed to the start in Piura, northern Peru, and made it with just one minute to spare. They then took to their beds to rest and follow the others later, only to find the border into Ecuador shut. It turned out that the competitors who had crossed earlier in the day had been the first cars to enter Ecuador from Peru in three months and the guards were not letting anyone else follow them. However, Major Sharples has arrived with the rest of us, albeit without the necessary stamps in his passport.

Tony and I continue in fifth place overall, without major dramas other than Tony badly spraining his ankle. But all is well and last week we put in our best performance so far by coming third on one stage.

It has been a very tiring race. Most mornings we are up at 4.30am. Tony usually works on the car at a local Volvo dealership until 10.00am. Without his efforts and their assistance, we would have been out of the rally by now.

One of the most impressive drives was Stage 23, a 55km all-tarmac section near Cuenca in southern Ecuador. It favoured the most powerful cars in the rally and was won in 26 minutes 22 seconds by the Ford Mustang of Australian Terry Daly and his New Zealand co-driver Bob Brill.

Stage 23 was not so kind to Stanley Illman from South Africa and his Austrian co-driver Franz Stangl. After being given a clutch by the owner of one of only three Porsches in Lima, the petrol pump on their 911 broke, costing them another 20 minutes.

Hannu Mikkola from Finland and his co-driver Gunnar Palm from Sweden, winners of 1970 event, continue to lead in their Ford Escort. Their professionalism, speed and general workmanlike approach is admired by all.

Scottish rival to the Mille Miglia

JOHN PAUL



A 1957 Mercedes 300SL heads a row of rare cars being carefully watched over in the eighth year of the Ecurie Ecosse in Tayside

Kevin Eason on the exclusive club of the Talacrest Ecurie Ecosse Rally

The watchful eyes under the peaked cap were guarding some of the most valuable metal in the country.

Lined up behind the security man on the gravelled forecourt of a hotel in the north of Scotland were cars to take the breath away. Unfortunately, there was always the prospect that the light-fingered might decide to take a piece of car away given half a chance during this week's Talacrest Ecurie Ecosse Rally.

In its eighth year, the Ecurie Ecosse has become less of a rally and more of an exclusive club with 36 exotic models, from Ferraris to Bentleys, haring around more than 700 miles around Tayside.

The rally is a reminder of the fun of motor sport with the cars and owners there to show off and to be shown off. Frank Sytner, the former British Touring Cars Champion, was with his 1964 AC Cobra, and Viscount Cowdray with a Ferrari 365 GTB Competition Daytona from 1970. But there was also a Ferrari 250GT Berlinetta, once driven by Stirling Moss, an Aston Martin LM23, which ran four times at Le Mans, and the Jaguar C-type Lightweight which was first to average 100mph over 24 hours at Le Mans.

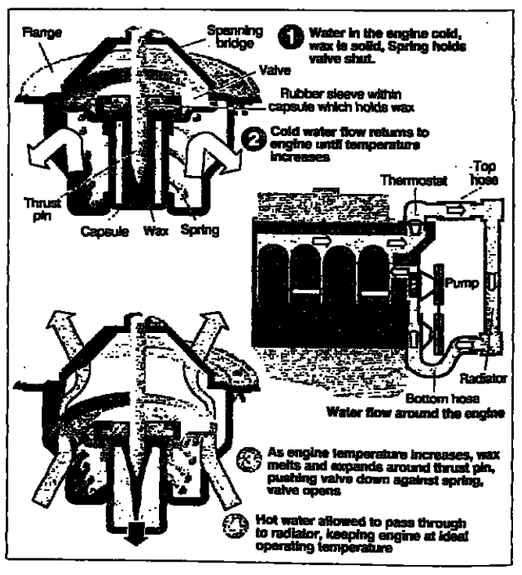
Such rare cars would inevitably attract the attention of thieves but John Foster, the organiser, yesterday reported no problems. Mr Foster, who dreamt up the Ecurie Ecosse as a British rival to Italy's famous Mille Miglia, said: "Parts are very expensive and rare and light-fingered people taking them would cause problems."

With winding roads to negotiate, difficult thoroughbreds such as these might have been expected to spend time with bonnets up and owners in despair. But Foster was having difficulty finding a recipient for the most sought-after award of the week: the silver spanner for the car suffering the most breakdowns.

"We had one flat battery and needed some Araldite, but apart from that everything went smoothly," he said. Owners paid £1,200 to enter and all proceeds — about £10,000 funded by the sponsors, Talacrest of Egham, Surrey — go to charity. But a new sponsor is needed for the 1996 rally.

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The thermostat is usually found on the cylinder head just where the top hose joins from the radiator. Inside is a small, sealed capsule filled with wax. When the engine is turned on, the valve in the thermostat is closed. Even though the water pump is working, it cannot pump water through the closed thermostat, and instead travels through a bypass.

As the engine warms up so does the thermostat, and the wax inside the capsule begins to melt and expand. This expansion drives out the thrust pin, which opens the valve, allowing the hot water to pass through and back to the radiator.

When the engine is turned off the wax begins to cool and contract. As it does, the spring pushes the valve closed. The wax then solidifies with the thermostat in its closed position, ready for the engine to be turned on.

A faulty thermostat — for instance one in which the wax has leaked out causing the thermostat to jam closed — can cause the engine to overheat because water will not circulate back to the radiator. In this case the thermostat must be replaced or, in an emergency, simply removed until a new one can be fitted.



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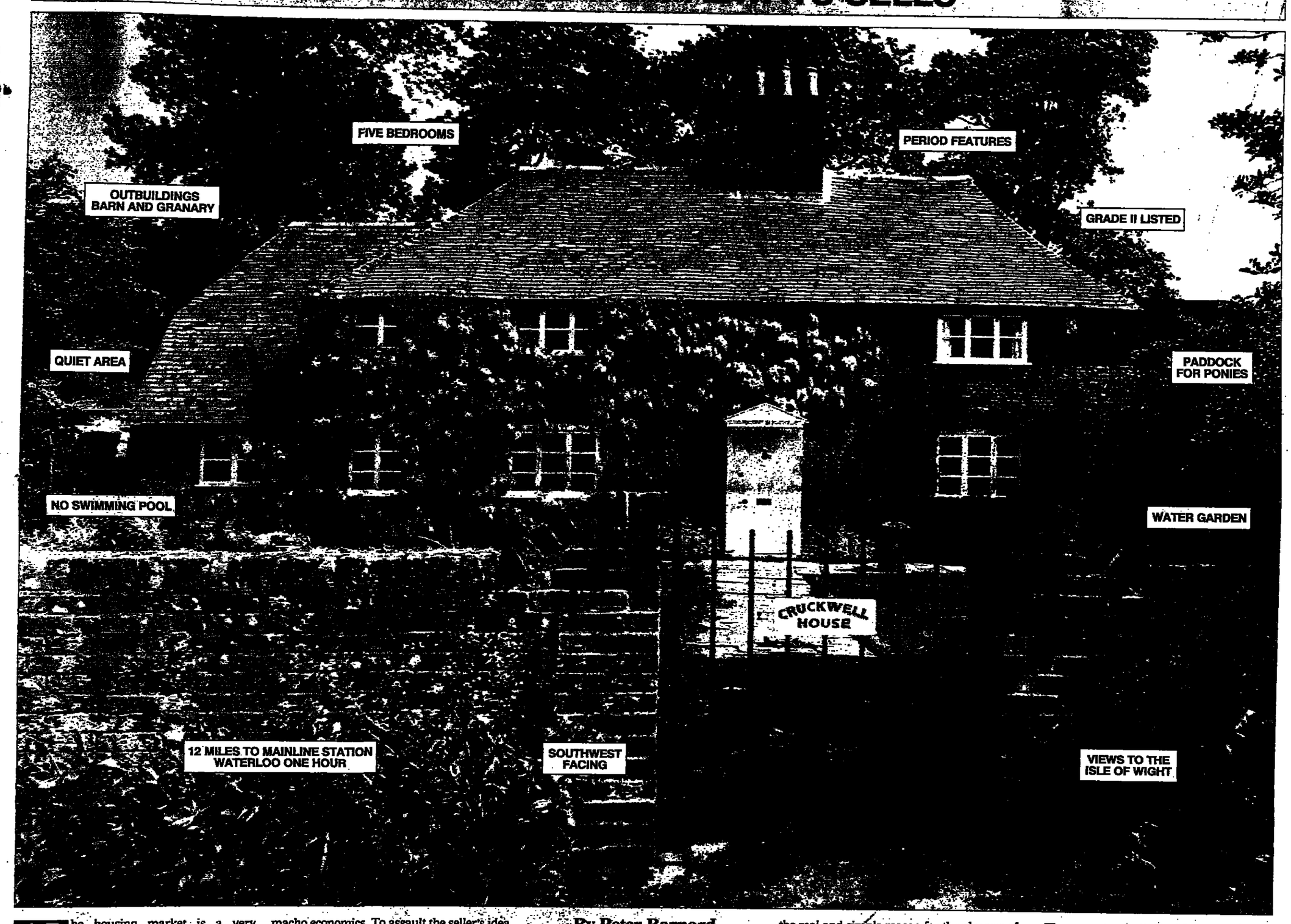
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WEEKEND

THE TIMES SATURDAY MAY 13 1995

THE HOUSE THAT ALWAYS SELLS



By Peter Barnard and Cheryl Taylor

The housing market is a very strange animal. In every estate agent's window there are examples of hope triumphing over experience to an extent that would be unthinkable if the window were full of groceries or washing machines.

Only in the housing market are there still some sellers, impervious to the recent outbreak of realism, who have a determinist view of their property's value. The reason is that housing is not just about macroeconomics or microeconomics: it is also about macho economics. To assault the seller's idea of his home's worth is to assault his libido. Smaller? Less? These are not words the seller wishes to hear.

Above all, the housing market is about the psychology of inflation. Years of zero price growth (and worse) have left us with the feeling that our homes have somehow let us down. Somewhere beneath the Weathershield, somewhere in the bricks, mortar, granite, timber, thatch, an economic Frankenstein has stirred and, cackling hideously, has taunted us with the only words it knows: negative equity. We understand it, yet we scarce believe it. We were brought up to think that whereas other goods become more expensive, houses become more valuable. A dearer house has a desirability that would never be applied to a dearer sausage. Negative equity? Bah, humbug. We seek a scapegoat, usually "the Government".

Thus does the housing market point us to the real and simple reason for the absence of a "feel-good" factor: our homes always used to be worth more than we paid for them. Now, in too many cases, they are not. Consequently, we do not feel good. One of our cherished clichés has been made redundant: as safe as houses were, they are no longer.

But universal truths can mislead. As the analysis on page three shows, there are houses and locations where prices are rising, where the agent's board is hardly erected before strangers are in our living room, whisperingly aghast at our taste.

There are, too, individual homes which hit every button on the keyboard of desirability, whose descriptions contain words which, in Tom Wolfe's phrase from another context, "identify the correct emotion": exceptional example. Grade II listed, country lane, country cottage garden, long westerly views and — the *coup de grâce* — convenient for mainline railway station.

They are all to be found in the brochure for the home on this page. Cruckwell House at

Continued on page 3, col 1



CHOICE

Planning an evening out, or a day with your family? *The Times* critics select the best entertainment

ROCK

David Sinclair

CELINE DION: This is Celine Dion's first tour of Britain since the staggering success of *Think Twice* (the biggest-selling single of the year) and its host album, *The Colour Of My Love* (number one for five weeks). It certainly will not be her last. Indeed, the Canadian singer's new single, *Only One Road*, is released this week and further dates are already scheduled for October and November. A ballad singer with a fervent touch, the 26-year-old former Eurovision Song Contest winner (for Switzerland) has drawn on considerable reserves of talent and ambition to carve a niche for herself in the international superleague inhabited by Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey.
Birmingham Symphony Hall (0121-212 3333), May 19; **Royal Concert Hall**, Nottingham (0115-948 2626), May 20; **Royal Concert Hall**, Glasgow (0141-332 6633), May 22; **Manchester Apollo** (0161-242 2560), May 23; **Hammersmith Apollo**, London W6 (0171-416 6080), May 25.

LITTLE RICHARD/CHUCK BERRY/FATS DOMINO: Whoever persuaded three egos of this magnitude to share a stage deserves a medal and, as antique package tours go, it is a line-up which takes some beating. While Chuck Berry, 68, remains a regular visitor to these shores, along with his scandalously unrehearsed pick-up bands, the piano-bashing antics of Little Richard, 59, and Fats Domino, 67, have been less frequently exposed in recent times. Nostalgia fans may confidently expect to hear a ton of hits revived from the archives as each artist performs his own set and the three of them join together for "a massive rock 'n' roll finale".
Sheffield Arena (0114-256 5656), May 17; **Wembley Arena**, Middlesex (0181-900 1234), May 18; **NEC**, Birmingham (0121-780 4133), May 20.

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Robert Carsen's production of Britten's Shakespearean opera arrives at the Coliseum trailing clouds of glory earned since it was first seen at the 1991 Aix Festival: beds, big and small, play a large part, as indeed they do in the opera. English National Opera has assembled an inviting cast — Lillian Watson, Christopher Robson, Susan Chilcott, Peter Rose, the immortal Donald Adams as Quince and Jean Rigby in the spit-and-cough role of Hippolyta, Steuart Bedford, one of Britten's last collaborators, is the conductor.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-632 8300), Wed 17, 7.30pm.

PELLEAS AND MELISANDE: Like all good symbolist artefacts, Debussy's opera can mean more or less anything you want it to mean, from the Decline of Civilisation As We Know It to a nasty case of sibling rivalry: the field is wide open for director Richard Jones's imagination to run riot in Leeds, as it is doing to such memorable effect in the Covent Garden *Ring*. The fact that the opera is, for once, sung in English may (or may not) help. Joan Rodgers, William Dazeley and Robert Hayward are the protagonists, and the conductor is Opera North's Paul Daniel.
Grand Theatre, New Briggate, Leeds (0113-244 0971/245 9351), Mon 15, Wed 17, Fri 19, 7.15pm.



Tytania and Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

JAZZ

Clive Davis

TEODROSS AVERY/VALERY PONOMAREV: Still a couple of months short of his 22nd birthday, Teodross Avery is picking up the kind of rave reviews that greeted the debut of another brash tenor prodigy from the West Coast of America, Joshua Redman. Initially influenced by both John Coltrane and Dexter Gordon, Avery studied with Joe Henderson and went through the Berklee mill before making his recording debut as a leader with *In Other Words*, a muscular session released earlier this year on the GRP label. The Moscow-born trumpeter Valery Ponomarev also belongs to the hard bop school. The Soviet Union not being the most nurturing environment for a jazz musician, he defected to the West 20 years ago and ended up in the most celebrated bop academy of them all, Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers. His quartet appears on the same bill as Irene Reid, the feisty blues and pop singer from Savannah, Georgia.
Avery: Jazz Café, Parkway, London NW1 (0171-916 6000), Thur 18, first set 9.30pm.
***Ponomarev*: Ronnie Scott's**, Frith St, London W1 (0171-439 0747), Mon 15 to Sat 20, support set from 9.30pm.



DENØL MCNEELANCE

After her success in both the British singles and album charts, the Canadian balladeer Celine Dion begins a concert tour on May 19

BLOSSOM DEARIE: She of the piping voice and the fey lyrics. After a long absence from London, the singer-pianist Blossom Dearie follows Buddy Greco into the Green Room. A low-key performer, she takes a sidelong view of the world's follies, her little-girl-lost delivery augmented by sophisticated piano playing. A perennial favourite at The Ballroom in New York's semi-bohemian Chelsea district, she collaborated with Johnny Mercer on the song *I'm Shadowing You* and brought her distinctive vocals to Dave Frishberg's cult classics *My Attorney Bernie*, *I'm Hip* and that evocation of café society *ennui*, *Peel Me A Grape*.
Café Royal, Regent St, London W1 (0171-437 9090), Tues, May 16, to Sat, June 3 (no performances Sun or Mon).

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

BERLIN NIGHTS: Claudio Abbado and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra offered blazing proof at the Proms last year that they had forged a partnership every bit as powerful — and rather more evenly balanced — than that between Karajan and the Berliners. Now the orchestra and its chief conductor return to London with two all-Mahler programmes that raise the highest hopes. Tomorrow they perform songs from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* with Anne Sophie von Otter, then Mahler Five. On Monday they move on to Mahler Nine.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800), tomorrow, Mon 15, 7.30pm.



Claudio Abbado: high hopes

CONSORT'S PURCELL: Anthony Rooley's Consort of Musicke was one of the pioneering chamber groups in the early-music field, and can still be trusted to find the unusual way into a familar subject. In this case the familiar subject is Purcell, much played of late. The unfamiliar approach is to put his last works in the context of his colleagues' music in a programme poignantly titled *The Mantle of Orpheus*. As we now know, the mantle fell very heavily on Purcell's British successors: nobody measured up to him for 200 years.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore St, London W1 (0171-935 2141), Thur 18, 7.30pm.

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

EIGHTY YEARS OF JEWISH ART: For a long time, the Ben Uri Arts Society, with its gallery above the Dean Street synagogue, has been a museum in all but name. Now, in its 80th year, it has been officially registered as a museum, and to celebrate has put on a show of Anglo-Jewish art drawn from its own collection. Included are some of the earliest works bought by the Society, two drawings by the pre-Raphaelite Simeon Solomon and a large oil, *The Sabbath Rest* (1894), by Samuel Hirszenberg. Other artists include Lucien Pissarro (Camille's Anglicised son), Bomberg, Gertler, and the German *émigré* Ludwig Meidner. More recent artists are Leon Kossoff, Sandra Fisher, and Sandra Blow.
Ben Uri Gallery, 21 Dean Street, London W1 (0171-437 2852), Mon-Thur, 10am-5pm; Sun, 2-5pm, until July 2.

EDWIN LUTYENS: The majority of architectural drawings, pictoral presentations of projects and such are drawn by specialists rather than by architects. Lutyens used professional draughtsmen in his office, but he was himself compulsive with a pen or pencil, and an expert watercolourist. This show, drawn from the Royal Institute of British Architects' own collection, ranges from informal scribbles of first notions to elaborate presentation drawings, and covers Lutyens's career from student work and collaborations with the gardener Gertrude Jekyll to the Cenotaph and the unbuilt Liverpool Roman Catholic cathedral.
RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1 (0171-580 5533), Mon-Fri, 11am-5pm; Sat, 10am-1pm, until July 1.

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

MATTHEW BARNEY: The Tate Gallery's welcome new space devoted to Art Now kicks off with a perplexing, yet oddly compulsive installation by the young American, Matthew Barney. Containers and uniforms are scattered across the floor, as if discarded after some strange ritual. And the three video monitors suspended above take us into a bizarre world. Barney himself appears, naked apart from a swimmer's cap and harness, moving up and down a lift shaft. He symbolises one aspect of a celebrated American football star, Jim Otto, whose physical dedication and zeal inspired the work. But this is no documentary. Inexplicably, three kilted members of the Black Watch erupt on another screen, chasing and playing games. The overall effect is just as eccentric and original as Barney's powerful new film, *Cremaster 4*, where a TT bike race around the Isle of Man is intercut with the supernatural antics of a tap dancing satire.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (0171-887 8000), until June 18.
***Cremaster 4*: The Metro**, Rupert Street, London W1 (0171-734 1506), today and tomorrow, 3pm, 11pm.

VICTOR GRIPPO: First European retrospective for a veteran Argentinian artist at the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham. Grippo, who trained as a chemist, first made his installations during the era of repressive dictatorships. He has reconstructed some of them for this show, and they reveal his long-term commitment to the moral problems of everyday life. Grippo's most celebrated works centre on the potato, heaped on narrow, refectory light tables or attached to electrodes. A volt metre measures the energy released by the potatoes, which, in Grippo's art, symbolises mental energy. They also stand for the unrealised potential of Latin American people. Underlying the variety in Grippo's work is a constant attempt to raise questions about society and the value of human life.
Ikon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham (0121-643 0708), until May 20.

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

SKYLIGHT: Michael Gambon's chunkily aggressive entrepreneur makes contact with his former mistress, an East End schoolmarm played by Lia Williams, for what is partly a debate about their respective careers, values and aspirations. But David Hare's play is one of his warmest and least didactic, and Richard Eyre's production is packed with strong, subtle emotion and fine, sensitive acting.
Cottesloe, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 2252). Evenings: Mon 15 to Sat 20, 7.30pm; matinée: Sat 20, 2.30pm. Continues in repertoire.

THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS: Is there a more emotionally munificent work in the 20th-century canon than O'Casey's slum's-eye-view of Easter 1916? Joe Dowling's production, itself fresh from Ireland, does full justice to the folly, the pain, the warmth, the fecklessness and all the rest of the tragi-comic mess and muddle.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (0171-494 5510). Evenings, 7.30pm; matinées: Thur and Sat, 2.30pm.

● *More theatre, page 6.*

DANCE

John Percival

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET: Two weeks at Covent Garden for this popular company. Peter Wright's happy new production of *Coppélia* has a surprise ending and comes with splendid new designs by Peter Farmer (May 16, 17, and May 22, 23, 26, 27). Incredibly, although this is one of the best ballets for children, and not seen at the Royal Opera House for 20 years, no matinées are scheduled (blame the Royal Opera's rehearsal schedules). The other programme includes two historic master works, both newly mounted: Antony Tudor's psychological drama, *Pillar of Fire*, and *The Three-Cornered Hat* by Da Falla, Massine and Picasso; also Balanchine's classic Tchaikovsky showpiece, *Theme and Variations* (May 18 to May 20, and May 25).
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (0171-304 4000), 7.30pm.

WILD TRANSLATIONS: Siobhan Davies's latest work for her dance company is made with three of her regular collaborators: a score by Kevin Volans, designs by David Buckland and lighting by Peter Mumford. This team should ensure Davies's usual high quality, and the new piece is given on a double bill with last year's success, *The Glass Blew In*.
Crucible Theatre, Sheffield (0114-276 9922), May 15, 16, 7.30pm; **Edinburgh Festival Theatre** (0131-529 6000), May 19, 7.30pm; **Mercury Theatre**, Colchester (01206 573948), May 22 and 23, 8pm; **Gardner Arts Centre**, Brighton (01273 685861), May 25-27, 7.45pm.

FILMS

Geoff Brown

BULLETS OVER BROADWAY (15): Woody Allen's most relaxed film for years: a buoyant and opulent period comedy set in New York's theatre world during the 1920s. Allen stays behind the camera, though his mouthpiece is clearly John Cusack's character: a playwright with more aspirations than talent. Allen surrounds his tortured hero with a droll collection of period types: menacing thugs, empty-headed molls, flowery actors, bohemian ranters. Excellent support by Chazz Palminteri, Dianne Wiest and Jim Broadbent.
Barbican (0171-638 8891); **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742); **Gate** (0171-727 4043); **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148); **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353), **Kensington** (01426 914666); **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520); **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366).

EXOTICA (18): Atom Egoyan, Canada's answer to David Lynch, makes his best bid yet for wider acceptance with an inventive set of variations on his pet theme: voyeurism. In a nightclub plastered with jungle foliage, gentlemen sit lost in fantasy while scantily clad women dance on tables. All characters are fuelled by desires, crippled by loss, though the plot that envelops them matters less than the overall mood. Funny, audacious, often beautiful. With Bruce Greenwood, Mia Kirshner and Elias Koteas.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323); **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691); **Renoir** (0171-837 8402).

● *More films, page 6.*

CHILDREN

CUMBRIA

Model Boat Rally: Models of all shapes and sizes, from submarines to motorboats, and radio-controlled ducks, kettles and frying pans, too.
Windermere Steamboat Museum, Rayrigg Road, Windermere (015394 45565). Today, tomorrow, 10am-5pm. Adults £2.80, child £1.40.

DERBYSHIRE

Chatsworth Angling Fair: International fair for all fishermen and their families.
Chatsworth House and Garden, Bakewell (0831 395101). Today, tomorrow, 8.30am-4.30pm. Adults £6, under 14s free.



Gone fishing at Chatsworth

DEVON

Oxfam It's a Knockout: Watch the local teams taking part and enjoy a family fun day out with face painting, music and a fair.
Plymouth Hoe, Plymouth (01822 616967). Tomorrow, 11am-4pm. Admission free.

EAST SUSSEX

The Santa Maria: See a replica of Columbus's flagship.
Brighton Marina Village, Brighton (01273 693636). Today, 10am-5pm, until May 31. Admission: adults £2, child £1.

HERTFORDSHIRE

Living Crafts at Hatfield House: See artists and craftsmen at work in the grounds.
Hatfield House, Hatfield (01707 262823). Today, tomorrow, 10am-6pm. Admission: adults £5.50, child £2.50.

LONDON

Richmond May Fair: Victorian carousel, fancy dress and performances by the Royal Ballet School.
Richmond Green and Parish Church, Richmond (0181-948 4464). Today, 10am-5pm. Admission free.

Annual May Fayre and Puppet Festival: Punch and Judy professors and puppeteers celebrate Mr Punch's birthday.
Covent Garden Piazza, WC2 (0171-375 0441). Tomorrow, 10.30am-5.30pm. Admission free.

NATIONWIDE

Library Power Week: Special events are being staged at libraries around the country to promote their use by children of all ages. Telephone your local library for details.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Countryside Day: Guided walks, sheep dog displays and rare breeds.
Daventry Country Park, Welton Road, Daventry (01327 302417). Tomorrow, 1pm-5pm. Admission free.

SCOTLAND

Mardi Gras: Local primary schools have constructed Mardi Gras monsters. Also musical and puppet performances.
Tollcross Park, Glasgow (0141-554 6642). Today, 1pm. Admission free.

Nairn Harbourfest: Live music, jugglers, clowns, and magicians. Also game shows, fun fair, air and sea rescue demonstration, raft race and model boat regatta.
Nairn Harbour, Nairn (01667 456 144). Today, 10am-11.30pm; tomorrow, 10am-9.30pm. Admission free.

SOMERSET

Badger Weekend: Learn about badger family life.
Secret World, New Road Farm, East Huntspill, Highbridge (01278 783250). Open daily, 10am-6pm. Badger weekend: today, tomorrow. Adults £3.95, child £2.75.

YORKSHIRE

Dragon Boat Racing: Crews from around the country race in the traditional 40-feet Chinese boats trying to keep time with the drum.
Roundhay Park, Princes Avenue, Leeds (0171-930 2296). Today, tomorrow, 10am-5pm. Admission free.

HEATHER ALSTON

Ruth Gledhill commemorated VE-Day at a synagogue in the City of London

AT YOUR SERVICE



THE scent of ancient, dark oak wood combined with the bright warmth of candles and sunlight at the Bevis Marks synagogue in the City of London gave a faint sense of medieval Spain. The other women and I squeezed behind a wooden trellis in the balcony had a partial view of the Spanish and Portuguese, or Sephardi Jews', synagogue, where we were commemorating VE-Day. Guests included Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Cardinal Basil Hume, the Archbishop of Westminster, Tony Blair and Michael Howard. Our preacher was Chief Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks, who heads the Ashkenazi United Synagogue. The Ashkenazim, originally from northern Europe, and the Sephardim, the Jews of Spain, Portugal and the Mediterranean, represent the two main divisions of Jewry in the diaspora and differ slightly in their liturgy and pronunciation of Hebrew.

Dress was traditional, with synagogue elders in top hats, other men in bowler hats or kippot, small caps. Married women also covered their heads. The synagogue is used by City workers who attend morning services, a weekly lunchtime teach-in and afternoon services.

Our service was in line with a more ancient tradition, following celebrations held there to mark victories at Trafalgar and Waterloo. But this was thought to be the first time a British Archbishop, Cardinal and Chief Rabbi had attended a synagogue service together. "There is a clear message of hope," Dr Sacks said in his sermon. "The past 50 years have proved that if we remember, we can change. And nowhere is this clearer than in the transformed relationship between Christianity and Judaism." He said he cherished his friendship with the two Anglican and Roman Catholic church leaders present. "The tribute they pay to Jews and Judaism by being here today is a measure of how far we have travelled through the long, patient, demanding process of coming to understand and respect those of another faith."

Behind the Archbishop of Canterbury sat Sir Sigmund Sternberg, wearing the cocked hat and green uniform of the Papal Order of St Gregory the Great. Sir Sigmund, chairman of the International Council of Christians and Jews, sporting the numerous medals he has been awarded for his inter-faith achievements, is the only Jewish Knight Commander in Britain.

Rabbi Dr Abraham Levy began by giving thanks to God "who answered our prayers and liberated us from tyranny and aggression". He wished *shalom*, peace, to all attending and watching on television "this service of commemoration and thanksgiving to God for his deliverance from Nazi oppression".

When the standards were in place the young boys in the choir led the congregation into the *Song of Degrees*. "The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand," we sang. "The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night." For the *Amidah*, the prayer of 18 benedictions, we turned towards the Ark, the cabinet containing the scrolls of the *Torah*, the five biblical books of the Law. "O Lord! open thou my lips, and my mouth shall declare thy praise," we sang, before the Ark was opened and the Rabbi led us in the *kaddéesh*, prayers for the dead, in this case specifically for victims of war and massacre.

"May he who maketh peace in his high heavens through his infinite mercy grant peace unto us and unto all Israel, and say ye Amen," he said.

The Last Post was sounded, before prayers for the Queen and Royal family and the blowing of the *shofar*, or ram's horn. This is normally reserved for the New Year and the Day of Atonement, but was used here to mark the momentous nature of the event.

Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Congregation, Bevis Marks Synagogue, Bevis Marks, City of London EC1. Tel: 0171-626 1274.

RABBI: Dr Abraham Levy.

ARCHITECTURE: Opened in 1701 and almost unaltered since, this is the oldest and possibly most beautiful synagogue in use in Britain. The builder, a Quaker, returned his profits to the congregation because he did not want to gain from building a house of God. ★★★★★

SERMON: On VE-Day, the Chief Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks preached a powerful and passionate sermon on the need "to remember the past for the sake of the future". ★★★★★

MUSIC: Startling and evocative hymns and psalms from men and boys' choir conducted by Maurice Martin, including the National Anthem in Hebrew. ★★★★

LITURGY: Largely-sung *Minha*, or afternoon service, in Hebrew, followed by VE-Day commemoration and thanksgiving. ★★★★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: None provided because the congregation was in the process of counting the *Omer*, the mourning period between *Pesah*, Passover and *Shavu'ot*, Pentecost.

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Both mournful and hopeful. ★★★★

★ stars are awarded to a maximum of five.



ADRIAN POPE

Cardinal Basil Hume and the Archbishop of Canterbury, left

هكذا من الأصل

Continued from page 1

Upper Swanmore in Hampshire. "Offers in excess of £465,000", the John D. Wood brochure says. And means: please, no property tourists.

Cruckwell House is serious business and, at the same time, a dream. But so is a bedsit to a homeless person, a one-bedroom flat to a bedsit dweller, and so on up the ladder. And we shall stay on the ladder, be it ever so wobbly, because, even now, an *Englishman's home is his* castle. Whoever heard of renting one of those?

WHAT'S HOT IN THE PROPERTY MARKET

IN GENERAL, houses built pre-1940 with lots of original features, away from main roads, railways and flight paths, preferably with a large southwest-facing garden. Plus:

- Period homes — thatched cottages, old rectories, castles and manor houses.
- Houses with additional space for an office or granny flat, preferably an annexe.
- Smallholdings, particularly with equestrian facilities.
- Waterfront homes, especially those with a private deep-water mooring at the end of the garden.
- Older character houses in need of renovation.
- Large country houses, suitable for bed and breakfast or self-catering accommodation.

LONDON

Wandsworth: Large Victorian/Edwardian family houses with good-sized gardens in leafy surroundings, combined with low council tax and a plethora of good private schools, make Wandsworth a hot property choice.

Five-bedroom houses, "between the Commons" (Wandsworth and Clapham), fetching £400,000 in 1993 have been selling at around £600,000 or more in 1995.

Shad Thames: Unlike the rest of London's Docklands, the Shad Thames area of Bermondsey, between Tower Bridge and St Savour's Dock, is red hot. Trendy riverside restaurants, shops and apartments, within sight of Tower Bridge, make the area popular with young City workers who want to walk to work.

Demand outstrips supply for warehouse conversions with original features and river views. The agents Chestertons Residential say that such properties sell fast. A two-bedroom apartment in New Concordia Wharf sold this year for £169,000. Four months earlier it had been bought for £133,000.

Islington: Labour leader Tony Blair's borough is experiencing a resurgence of interest from well-off young professionals, mainly media people and barristers, who want to be within walking distance of the City and Law Courts. Georgian houses costing £200,000 to £500,000 are the most sought-after, the agents Hamptons say. Demand for flats and houses exceeds supply in places such as Cannonbury, Barnesbury and the Angel. Also Finsbury, Highbury Fields and areas such as Tufnell Park, where there is a waiting list of buyers for some roads. Family houses in good condition with gardens sell within hours of coming on to the market.

Richmond and Putney: A combination of Georgian houses, green space and a number of riverside developments, with good communications (at the end of the District Line), make Richmond a popular choice. The main market activity is in the upper price bracket: £500,000 upwards.

Riverside developments here are particularly hot, Hamptons say. Five-bedroom houses, with moorings, are selling off-plan at one development for between £650,000 and £750,000.

Mayfair: The return of some of the top names in fashion — Caroline Charles, Calvin Klein, Gianni Versace and Armani — to Bond Street heralds a resurgence in popularity for property in Mayfair. The area is liked by foreign buyers who want a London base close to Oxford Street, says the agent Beaney Pearce. Flats in 1930s or 1950s blocks overlooking Berkeley Square or Grosvenor Square are the most sought after, with prices up to £750,000 for a two-bedroom flat in good condition.

Knightsbridge: Most estate agents agree that people wanting a smart address or *pied-à-terre* aim for Knightsbridge — preferably "just around the corner from Harrods". The agents Chesterfields say there is a waiting list of potential buyers for homes in prime streets, such as Egerton Terrace, where a family house would set you back £1.3 to £3 million. Also popular: Brompton Square, Montpelier Square and Pelham Crescent.

HOT PROPERTIES

Holland Park: Some people love this area and will pay exorbitant amounts to own a house there. Creamy double-fronted stuccoed houses on Holland Park Road are highly coveted. These fetch upwards of £3 million for five or six bedrooms and large gardens. The agents Foxtons recently sold a two-bedroom basement flat in the area in less than a week for £285,000; a two-bedroom maisonette went to sealed bids (with four bidders) achieving £351,000.

Wimbledon village: Semi detached Victorian and Edwardian houses here cost about £400,000 for four bedrooms. Prices of good quality properties in the area went up by 15 per cent last year, according to the agents Savills.

Hampstead and Highgate: *Well-located family houses* costing anything from £700,000 to more than £2 million will sell within a matter of days, such is the demand for homes here. Potential purchasers spend more than a year on waiting lists and will often pay over the odds for the right property.

Battersea, Lavender Hill and Clapham Junction: Popular with young, single, professionals and first-time buyers. The area offers convenient travel into the City and West End and some of the trendiest shops, wine bars and bistros in south London. Foxtons say a one-bedroom garden flat can be yours for £85,000; two bedrooms from £120,000. Victorian houses, with up to four bedrooms and good-sized gardens, fetch from £175,000 to £200,000.

Fulham: Prices for large flats in Fulham are on the way up. The agent John D. Wood says that three and four-bedroom flats in 1930s blocks, with river views, sell for up to £415,000. The main reason given is the dearth of property in the Chelsea area. Several of the Victorian houses on the Peterborough Estate have recently sold at around £600,000.

South Kensington: Car parking in the capital is becoming an increasingly important factor with home buyers. As a result, people are choosing areas with good public transport. One area that has benefited is South Kensington. In demand are the garden squares, such as Onslow Square and Onslow Gardens, Queens Gate Gardens and Cornwall Gardens. A two-bedroom flat in the Onslows will set you back about £300,000 — if you're lucky enough to find one for sale.

BANBURY

The M40 extension has given a filip to this area. Previously, London commuters or second home owners drew the line at Burford or Oxford: now they are prepared to look further north, says Paul Greenwood of Stacks Relocation. The M40 also offers easy access to Birmingham. The countryside is scenic and there are a number of good schools. Prices began to rise even before the M40 extension had been completed. A house with five bedrooms, outbuildings and pony paddocks, could cost from £250,000 to £400,000, and between £500,000 and £750,000 for a larger house with up to 25 acres of land, says John D. Wood's Oxford office.

BASINGSTOKE

The area between Basingstoke and Winchester is becoming a hot-spot with well-heeled City workers looking for a country retreat (close to the M3 and an hour from Winchester to Waterloo by fast train). Desirable villages include Upton Grey and Bentworth. Most of the activity is at the top of the market, with stockbrokers and merchant bankers willing to pay £750,000 to £1 million for a country house with six or seven bedrooms and up to ten acres.

CAMBRIDGE

Demand is high for houses in the centre of the town, where supply is limited. Six buyers were bidding recently for a period three-storey, seven-bedroom, end-of-terrace house: it sold for more than the guide price of £310,000, through the agents Bidwells.

CHESHIRE

A four-bedroom house with stables and pony paddocks might fetch £220,000 to £300,000. Large country houses and small estates, within a 30-mile radius of Chester, fetch from £500,000 to more than £1 million.

COTSWOLDS

Kingham, between Stow-on-the-Wold and Chipping Norton, is hot favourite with weekenders and those seeking retirement homes. The station is half a mile from the village and you can get into London in 83 minutes by train. Also popular are the classic Cotwolds areas of Coln valley, Windrush valley and Upper and Lower Slaughter. Old stone cottages, with four bedrooms and secluded gardens, fetch up to £250,000.

DEVON

Waterside properties in Dartmouth, Salcombe and Kingsbridge are hotter than ever, particularly those with deep-water moorings. Such properties are highly prized by weekend sailors and retired executives and they are hard to find. The few that come on the market fetch a premium of *up to 50 per cent. Expect to pay* a premium of 25 per cent or more for those homes which have a view of the water. Such homes cost from £350,000, say the agents Marchand Petit. The agents Fulfords say there is a waiting list of cash buyers, some with up to £1 million to spend.

East Devon attracts a lot of attention because of the M5, the A303 and its good access into Exeter. The seaside town of Sidmouth is particularly hot. With a beautiful coastline, it is a popular spot for retirement homes. Three-bedroom bungalows with sea views cost from £200,000, Fulfords say.

NEWBURY

The relocation of several large companies to this area has buoyed up property prices. John D. Wood's Newbury office reports a high demand for properties in the range £185,000 to £200,000, which buys a three-bedroom, detached thatched cottage. Four to five-bedroom period houses in good condition, with stables and up to five acres, cost from £250,000 to £400,000.

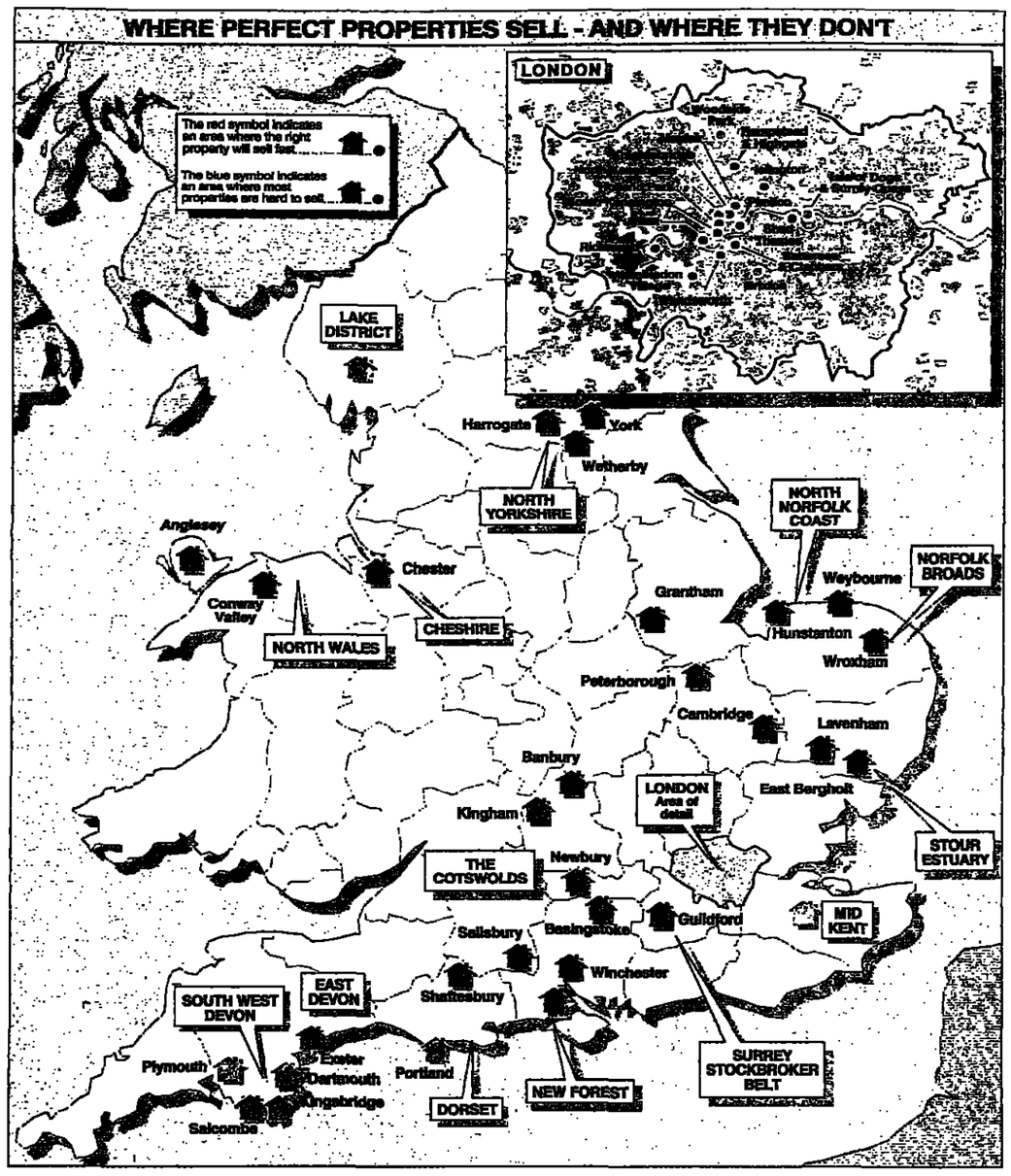
NEW FOREST

There are few period properties in the New Forest, so prices stay high, GA Property Services say. The same applies to four-bedroom cottages with two to three acres of land, which fetch from £300,000. A six-bedroom property on the Solent shore can fetch upwards of £1 million.

NORFOLK

The area around Wroxham, Acle and Horning is popular because of the Broads and its boating. Also, the unspoilt north Norfolk coast, within a ten-mile radius of the coastline from Weybourne to Holt, Cley, Blakeney, Stiffkey, Burnham Market, Brancaster, Thornham and Old Hunstanton. Detached period houses costing from £100,000 are sought after by second home and retirement buyers Bidwells say.

WHERE PERFECT PROPERTIES SELL - AND WHERE THEY DON'T



NORTH WALES

The agents Strutt & Parker's Chester office say that the new A55 has meant that parts of North Wales — the Conway Valley to Anglesey in particular — are more accessible to the new business areas of Chester, Liverpool and Manchester. Expect to pay £200,000 to £300,000 for a five-bedroom house with up to five acres.

NORTH YORKSHIRE

Any good period house within commuting distance of Leeds, Harrogate and York sells quickly, say Savills and Strutt & Parker. A five-bedroom house in up to five acres will fetch about £300,000.

PETERBOROUGH

There has been resurgence of interest in the area, mostly from people relocating from London. The electrification of the BR line makes Peterborough 55 minutes from King's Cross. Well-located period houses can sell within days of coming on the market, says Savills' Stamford office, which sold a five-bedroom Georgian house with a large garden for £250,000 in five weeks.

SALISBURY

The area between Salisbury and Shaftesbury is in demand as improvements to the A303 make the area more accessible to London. The road is now nearly all dual carriageway up to where it joins the M3. Expect to pay at least £500,000 for a five-bedroom period farmhouse with good views and up to five acres.

SUFFOLK

Hot spots here include the Lavenham area, where there are many fine medieval timber-framed houses in undulating countryside. These cost from £300,000 to £500,000 and are becoming harder to find, Bidwells say.

The River Stour estuary and the valley leading to East Bergholt and Constable country is popular with sailors and commuters, who catch the InterCity train from Colchester or Ipswich (about an hour from London). Victorian five-bedroom houses with 20 or 30 acres overlooking water fetch £250,000 to £750,000.

SURREY

The stockbroker belt around Guildford is hot for commuters who need to be within easy reach of central London (36 minutes by train to Waterloo), Gatwick and Heathrow. Good private schools in the area also attract buyers. Detached four-bedroom cottages in villages such as Dunsford, Hascombe, Lurgashall, Shere, Chiddingfold and Hambledon cost about £250,000. An 18th-century country house with six bedrooms in six acres costs about £600,000.

Cover photograph by DEREK CHAMBERLAIN
Cartography by DUNCAN STEWART

More property, page 13



Sir Alfred Munnings P.R.A., R.W.S. (1878-1959) with the finished model of Brown Jack.
One of the five casts made will be offered as Lot 128, estimate £40,000 – 50,000

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Noise from flight paths plus heavy traffic and air pollution hits property prices

HARD TO SELL

IN GENERAL, modern houses (post 1960), particularly those on estates, have declined *in popularity.* The same applies to some barn conversions and properties perceived to be too avant garde or lacking in privacy. Also down are homes on busy roads, on flight-paths, bordering rail lines, and within earshot of motorways. With higher levels of traffic noise and air pollution, such houses are becoming increasingly difficult to sell.

LONDON

Pimlico has been said to be up and coming for the past 15 years — but it never seems to get there, says Charles Ellingwoth of the specialist buying agency Property *Vision.*

Brixton. The area off Landor Road was popular in the late 1980s and tipped as the next up-and-coming area. Not enough people moved in before the property market crashed, and now the area is out of fashion and prices are at rock bottom.

Woodside Park. Chanctonbury Way and Cissbury Ring (North and South) was popular when the well-respected Japanese School was located in the area. When the school moved to Acton, many Japanese residents went with it, the estate *agent Barnard* Marcus says.

Isle of Dogs and Surrey Quays. The Docklands agents Carleton-Smith say properties under £150,000 are hard to shift in some parts. Newly built homes in Surrey Quays have fallen out of favour because of problems with public transport, particularly rail links. On the Isle of Dogs, there has been an increase in the supply of new properties, ahead of demand.

North Kensington. In the 1980s boom, a shortage of property forced people to buy on the fringes of the more established areas. Some paid over the odds to live in North Kensington. "This was not an established area and has not been strong enough to withstand the crash," says Simon English of agents Beaney Pearce.

LAKE DISTRICT

The second-home market in the area almost collapsed in the recession, particularly for anything that was not in the core areas. The market is taking a long time to recover, the agents Savills say.

DORSET

The closure of the naval bases in Portland next year has caused property values to drop 25 per cent in the past four years. Prices here are thought to have hit rock bottom, say the agents Palmer Snell.

PLYMOUTH

Massive defence cuts have hit the local economy and the housing market, say the agents Fulfords. High unemployment and rising crime are big problems.

KENT

The relatively unspoilt area of mid-Kent has fallen out of favour because of the proposed rail link to Dover for the Channel Tunnel. Some houses along the route have plunged in value and selling is difficult, say the agents Strutt & Parker.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Sat 13 May 7.30 — **BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** London Symphony Chorus. Enrique Diemecke (cond) Marta Senn, Cecilia Angell, Fernando de la Mora, William Alvarado. Felix Homenajes suite for orchestra; La Vida breve. £10 (unreserved) BBC Radio 3 FM

Sun 14 May 7.30 — **BERLIN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Claudio Abbado. Anne Sophie von Otter, Mahler Rheinlegendchen; Das irdische Leben; Wo bei dies Liedlein schacht; Wo die schonen Trompeten blasen; Sym No.5. £75, £55, £35 (ONLY) Harold Holt/*SBC

Mon 15 May 7.30 — **BERLIN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Claudio Abbado. Mahler Symphony No.9 Sponsor: Deminex UK Oil and Gas Ltd. £75, £55, £35, £20 (ONLY) Harold Holt/*SBC

Wed 17 May 7.30 — **BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** BBC Symphony Chorus, David Atherton (cond) John McCabe Symphony 'Of Time and the River' (1st UK perf); Ravel Daphnis and Chloe. £10 BBC Radio 3 FM

Thu 18 May 7.30 — **VERDI REQUIEM** Philharmonia Orchestra Philharmonia Chorus, Carlo Rizzi (cond) Jane Eaglen, Linda Finnie, Dennis O'Neill, Alistair Miles. £28, £22, £17, £10, £5 *Philharmonia Ltd

Fri 19 May 7.30 — **ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** David Atherton, Imogen Cooper, M Seiler. Tchaikovsky/Stravinsky Sleeping Beauty excpts; Dvorkanovic (Fairy's Kiss); Mozart Pno Conc No.23; Spohr: Independent Insurance. £15, £12, £9, £7, £5 *RPO Ltd

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Sat 13 May 7.45 — **PIANO CONCERTO FESTIVAL/MOZART TRIPLE** London Soloists Ch Orch, Josefowitz, S Petrou, C Papageorgiou, B Mitchell. Concs: 3 pnos, K.242; 2 pnos, K.365; Pno Conc No.9, K.271; Mozart/Wi Haydn Sym No.37, K.444. £14, £12, £9, £7*LSCO

Sun 14 May 3.00 — **SCHIDLOF QUARTET** with Emanuel Hurwitz (viola) Schubert: Quartettsatz in C minor; Beethoven Quartet in E flat, Op.74;Mozart String Quintet in C, K.515. Tickets from Association of Jewish Refugees 0171-431 6161. *AJR/Wiener Library *Self Aid

Mon 15 May 7.45 — **KENSINGTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Russell Keeble (cond) Ravel Alborada del Gracioso; Berlioz Les Nuits d'Ete; Tippett Ritual Dances from the Midsummer Marriage; Ibert Escales. £12, £10, £8, £5 KSO

Tue 16 May 7.45 — **ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS** Kenneth Sillito. Handel Conc Grosso; Trio Son, Op.2/4; Geminiani Conc Grosso No 5; Telemann Don Quixote; Corelli Conc Grosso; Vivaldi Conc, RV.443. Sponsor: Nuclear Electric. £10, £8 (ONLY) ASM

Wed 17 May 7.45 — **NEW YORK COMPOSERS ORCHESTRA** *New music by Wayne Horvitz, Robin Holcomb & Marty Ehrlich* This Anglo-American group will include ten of Britain's finest jazz improvisers. £10, £7.50 *SBC/ACE

Thu 18 May 7.45 — **RADU LUPU** International Piano Series Bartok Suite, Op 14; Improvisations on Hungarian Peasant Songs, Op.20; Schumann *Davidsbundlertanze*, Op.6; Sonata Bdur, Op.98. £15, £10, £5 Terry Harrison Artists Mgt/*SBC

Fri 19 May 7.45 — **ALBAN BERG QUARTET** Associate Artists at SBC Haydn String Quartet, Op.76 No.5; Britten Quartet No.3, Op.94; Beethoven Quartet in C sharp minor, Op.131 £15, £3, £9.50, £5 *SBC

PURCELL ROOM

Tue 16 May 7.30 — **A JOURNEY THROUGH THE LIFE OF FRANZ LEHAR** A programme of Lehar operetta excerpts presented by Adele Leigh (former star of the Vienna Volksoper). £12.50, £10, £7.50 *AAMS

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Saturday 13 May 5.00 pm NB: starting time	SATURDAY SCHUBERTIAD Toby Spence tenor; Alice Coote mezzo-soprano; Julius Drake piano Songs from 1817 including *Der Tod und das Mädchen* and *Ganymed* All seats £7 4pm: Pre-concert talk £2.50 (£2 with ticket) incl. coffee/pastries	Song Recital Series Wigmore Hall
Saturday 13 May 7.30 pm	FAURE 150TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT - NASH ENSEMBLE Françoise Pollet soprano; François Le Roux baritone, Ian Brown, Susan Tomes piano; Philippa Davies flute. Fauré: Allegro Symphonie Op.58; Dolly Suite Op.56; Fantaisie Op 79, Piano Quartet Op 45; 12 songs & duets £14, £12, £9, £8 NCS	
Sunday 14 May 11.30 am NB: starting time	SKAMPA QUARTET (Resident Quartet, Wigmore Hall) Borowski: Quartet in F minor Op 55 Smetana: String Quartet No.2 in D minor (1882-83) £7 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice	Coffee Concert Wigmore Hall
Sunday 14 May 7.00 pm NB: starting time	CHIYOKO NISHIOKA piano Scarlatti: 3 Sonatas, Mozart: Sonata In A K331 Bartók: 15 Hungarian Peasant Songs Chopin: 2 Nocturnes, Rondo à la Mazur in F Op.5 £10, £8, £6, £4 Assisted by Japan Airlines Anglo-European Arts	
Monday 15 May 7.30 pm	SCHUBERT ENSEMBLE OF LONDON. Norway da Souza guest violin Mendelssohn: Piano Quartet Op.2; Mozart/Bach: 2 Preludes & Fugues; David Matthews: Piano Quintet (1995) (London premiere) * C.Franck: Piano Quintet in F minor £10, £8, £6, £4 * [excl. Pre-concert talk - 6.15 pm (£3)]	Sponsored by Land Rover Senior Mgt
Tuesday 16 May 7.30 pm	VLADIMIR OVCHINNIKOV piano Medtner: Sonata Reminiscenza Op.38; Skriabin: Sonata No 5 Op.53 Rakhmaninov: Sonata No.2 (original version) Op.36; Prokofiev: 6 Pieces from *Cinderella*; Stravinsky: 3 Movements from *Petrushka* £12, £10, £8, £5	Menuhin Management Rush-Hour Concert
Wednesday 17 May 6.00 pm NB: starting time	ENDELLION STRING QUARTET Roger Chase viola Mozart: String Quintet in E flat K614 Tchaikovsky: String Quartet No.1 in D Op.11 All seats £7	Rush-Hour Concert Wigmore Hall/ BBC Radio 3
Wednesday 17 May 8.00 pm NB: starting time	MARINA SHAGUCH soprano LARISSA GERGIEVA piano Mussorgsky: The Nursery; Rimsky-Korsakov: 5 Songs Rakhmaninov: 6 Songs Op.38; 5 Songs (incl. Spring Waters) £14, £12, £9, £5	Menuhin/Kirov Series Wigmore Hall/RPO/Les Ashcroft Ltd
Thursday 18 May 7.30 pm	THE CONSORT OF MUSICKE The Mantle of Orpheus, A fresh approach to Purcell's last works before his death in 1695, placing him in the context of his colleagues Sponsored by Anstey, Horne & Company ALL SEATS SOLD (returns only)	Early Music & Baroque Series Mgt: The Consort of Musicke
Friday 19 May 7.30 pm	FRANZ LISZT CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, Janos Rolla director Mozart, Eine kleine Nachtmusik; Liszt: Hungarian Rhapsodies Nos 1, 2 & 9; Mendelssohn: String Symphony No. 10; Bartók: Divertimento Presented in association with the Hungarian Embassy £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £7.50	Sue Lubbock Concert Management
Saturday 20 May 5.00 pm NB: starting time	SATURDAY SCHUBERTIAD Ruth Ford mezzo soprano, Karl Magnus Fredriksson baritone, Jeffrey Dratler piano. Songs from 1817 including *Chopin* and *Am Tarasse* and *Der Schiffer* All seats £7 4pm: Pre-concert talk £2.50 (£2 with ticket) incl. coffee/pastries	Song Recital Series Wigmore Hall
Saturday 20 May 7.30 pm	TRANSYLVAN STRING QUARTET Tilney: Meditation on K499 (Mozart Quartet in D) Haydn: Quartet in D Op.64 No.5 *The Lark*; Mozart: Quartet in C K465 *Dissonance*, Beethoven: Quartet in B flat Op.18 No. 6 £12, £10, £9, £8	The New Europe Sponsored by Central Europe Trust

Saturday 20th May 1995 at 7.30pm
Gloucester Cathedral
Concert to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of V.E. Day
Symphony No.5 in D major — Vaughan Williams
Violin Concerto No.1 in G minor — Bruch
Erick Gruenberg (violin)
The Spirit of England — Elgar
Clare Martin (soprano)
The Philharmonic Choir
English Heritage Orchestra
Leader: Basil Sewart
Conductor: Graham Mayo
Tickets: £15, £12.50, £10 (all reserved) OC (Gloucester) — Sponsored by — Tickets available from: Gloucester Booking Office Tel: (01452) 421188 / Cheltenham Box Office Tel: (01242) 522878 (Days/Evenings)
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0171-638 8891 9AM – 8PM DAILY
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Tonight 13 May 7.00pm — **DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION** by the **MORRISTON ORPHEUS CHOIR** with Welsh Guards Band & Fffare Trpts. Rebecca Evans sop Jason Howard bar Ingrid Surgenor pano Prog inc excerpts from opera, musicals, Welsh trad £7.50 £15 £21 £24 DJC

Tomor 14 May 3.00pm — **YO-YO MA: SPECTRUM!** Children's Concert A fun concert specially devised by Joanna MacGregor and Richard Williams with Yo-Yo Ma cello and the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra. Actor Roger McGough reading his new poems for Saint-Saëns Carnival of the Animals. Adults £8 Children £5 *Barbican Centre*

Tomor 14 May 7.30pm — **GERSHWIN CLASSICS** London Concert Orchestra, David Arnold cond Philip Fowke piano Prog inc *Strike Up the Band Ov An American in Paris Rhapsody in Blue Lady be Good Cuban Suite, Porgy and Bess Symphonic Picture* £13.50 £17.50 £19.50 £22.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*

Mon 15 May 7.30pm — **ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Jeffrey Tate cond piano Rosa Mannion, Simon Keenlyside soloists. Pro Musica Chorus. *Brahms A German Requiem, Op 45 Tragic Overture; Songs for ECO/MS* £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 £19 *Sponsored by MSL Group*

Tue 16 May 7.30pm — **YO-YO MA:SPECTRUM. NASHVILLE STRINGS** Yo-Yo Ma cello Mark O Connor violin Edgar Meyer double bass Traditional and bluegrass music from Nashville £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 £14 *Barbican Centre*

Wed 17 May 7.30pm — **YO-YO MA: SPECTRUM** London Classical Players Roger Norrington cond Yo-Yo Ma cello Ernst Kovacic violin Robert Levin fortepiano *Brahms Double Concerto, Beethoven Triple Concerto* £6.50 £10.50 £13 £16.50 £19 *Barbican Centre*

Fri 19 May 7.30pm — **BUDAPEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Tamas Vasary cond Britten *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* Bartók Concerto Tchaikovsky Symphony No 1 in C minor Brahms Symphony No 1 in C minor £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 £22 *IMG Artists*

yo-yo ma - spectrum
America's exuberant cellist
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London Classical Players
ROGER NORRINGTON conducts BRAHMS & BEETHOVEN
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FRIDAY 19 MAY 7.30PM
Tamas Vasary *conductor*
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BRAHMS-Symphony No.1
Tickets £6 - £22
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THREE GREAT OPERA STARS
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Tenor: *ANTHONY MEE* Baritone: *ROBERTO SALVATORI*
National Symphony Orchestra Pro Musica Chorus
Conductor: *Martin Merry*

The Bartered Bride	Overture
Don Giovanni	La ci darem la mano
Rigoletto	Questa o quella
Faust	Soldiers' Chorus
La Traviata	Brindisi, Prelude Act 3, Di Provenza il mar
Il Trovatore	Anvil Chorus
Tosca	Vissi d'arte, E lucevan le stelle
	Te Deum
Prince Igor	Polovtsian Dances
The Barber of Seville	Largo al factotum
Gianni Schicchi	O mio babino caro
The Pearlfishers	Duet
Cavalleria Rusticana	Intermezzo, Voi lo sapete
Turandot	Nessun dorma, Final Scene

£9.50 £13.50 £16.50 £19.50 £22.50 0171 928 8800

BARBICAN HALL
Sunday 4 June at 7.30
GRAND CLASSICAL GALA
National Symphony Orchestra
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Ov. *William Tell*, Che gelida Manina *La Boheme*, Prelude *Carmen*, Sabre Dance Khachaturian, Risarod, Enigma Variations Elgar, La donna è mobile *Rigoletto*, The Liberty Bell Sousa, Excerpts Peer Gynt Grieg, Meditation *Thais*, Finlandia Sibelius, Radetzky March Strauss, Nessun dorma *Turandot*, Csardas, Czardas, O sole Mio
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Itzhak Perlman The Daily Telegraph

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BEETHOVEN Two Romances
BEETHOVEN Violin Concerto
Tuesday 13 June, 7.30pm
BRAHMS Academic Festival Overture
MOZART Violin Concerto No.3 in G major
BRAHMS Violin Concerto
Thursday 15 June, 7.30pm
BERNSTEIN Candide Overture
BARBER Violin Concerto
TCHAIKOVSKY Violin Concerto
Saturday 17 June, 7.30pm
SIBELIUS Finlandia
SIBELIUS Violin Concerto
MENDELSSOHN The Hebrides Overture (Fingals Cave)
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ECO **English Chamber Orchestra**
Jeffrey Tate conducts
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Tickets from £6

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1994-1995 SERIES
Friday 2 June 1995 at 7.30pm
SEIJI OZAWA *conductor*
Berlioz *Waverley Overture*
Mozart *Symphony No.41, 'Jupiter'*
Prokofiev *Romeo and Juliet Suite*
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AT THE BARBICAN CENTRE
ROYAL OPERA HOUSE Covent Garden
Barbican Centre
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Barbican Hall at 7.30pm
Conductor Daniele Gatti
Tchaikovsky
Fantasy Overture
Romeo and Juliet
Ravel
Mother Goose
Stravinsky
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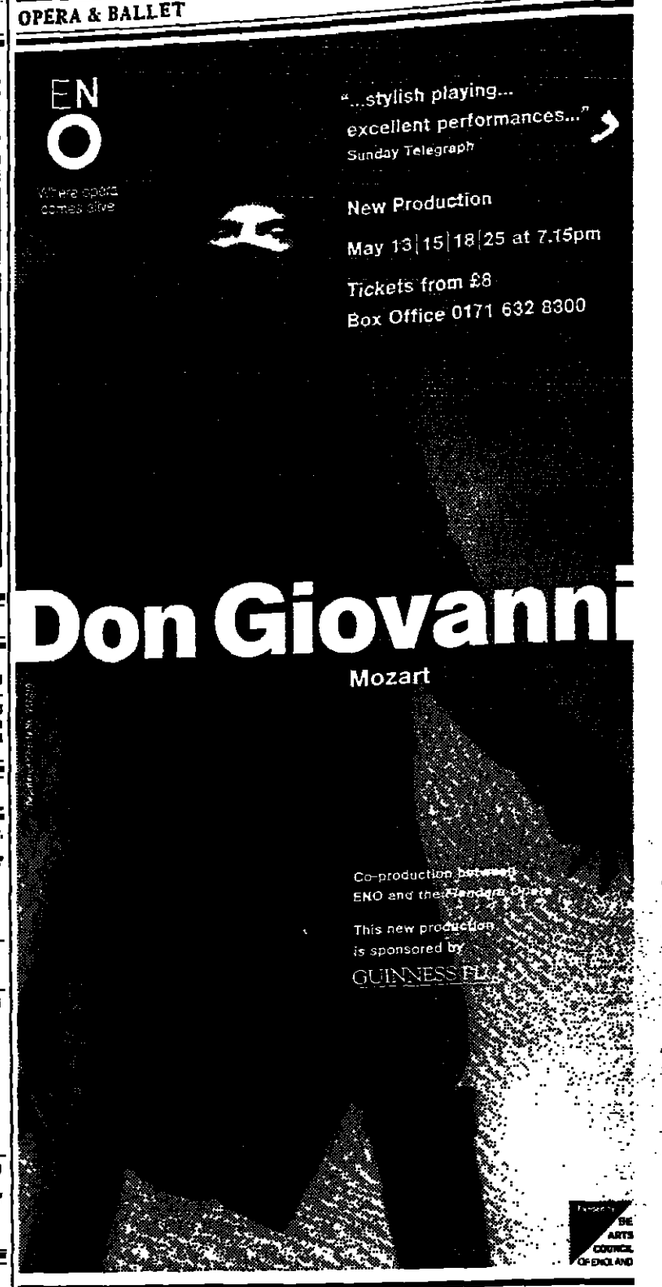
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OPERA & BALLET



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OPERA & BALLET

CHURCHILL THEATRE Bromley, Kent. Kentish Opera presents: 'The Queen of Spades' Tchaikovsky 17th-20th May £14.50-£16.50. Full Chorus & Orchestra. Box Office 0181 460 6677 Enquiries 0181 460 9747

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Orchestras may have to merge or die

WEEK IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

Make love not war! That sensible Sixties injunction finally seems to have dawned on two famous orchestras facing almost certain extinction. For this week the Royal Philharmonic and the London Philharmonic cuddled up to each other, examined the size of each other's deficits (as mating partners tend to do), and said: "If we stick together, we might even survive."

Naturally, this being the London orchestral world, such a touching moment could not be achieved without a little preliminary bloodshed. In this case the blood belongs to Christopher Lawrence, the LPO's managing director — until last Wednesday that is, when he apparently departed on less than civil terms. (Some day, all those who have left the LPO on less than civil terms should meet and swop anecdotes: Wembley Stadium ought to be big enough for the gathering.)

Then, on Thursday, Lord Young of Graffham — recently appointed chairman of the LPO Trust — wrote an extraordinary letter to his opposite number at the RPO Trust, Sir John Morgan. First he reminded Sir John of the disaster that has overtaken Britain's orchestras. Corporate sponsorship is "but a shadow of what it was". All the orchestras (excluding the LSO, cushioned by City of London money) "are nearly overwhelmed with debt". If nothing is done, Lord Young warned, "I very much doubt that the orchestras will see the end of the decade".

But that was merely a prelude to his main aria. He proposes that the RPO and LPO "disband their individual administrations and start again with a single administration under a single managing director". That, he reckons, would save "at least £600,000 a year".

Of course, an administrative merger between two London orchestras is not exactly a new idea. Readers of a particularly patient and loyal disposition may remember that last November I wrote of an abortive attempt to marry the LPO and Philharmonia in similar fashion. This time, however, the partners have changed. An unusual "joint gala concert" at the Festival Hall last week by the RPO and LPO should have warned us that flirtation was in the air.

Lord Young admits that administrative jobs will be lost, but maintains that every player would keep his job. "There can be work enough for them, and to spare," he exclaims with bluff optimism. But then he suggests that the two bands might "join together for the big RFH showpiece concerts and the recording contracts, perhaps under a new and grand title — The Royal London Philharmonic Orchestra".

To my naive brain this seems very close to a full-scale merger — especially as Lord Young predicts that a "consolidated administration" could nurture "one of the greatest symphony orchestras in the world". He even reveals that he has already approached "both the Arts Council and the Lottery people" and claims that "if we engage in this process we will receive sufficient help to enable us to clear the decks and start again".

Well, if I were a back-desk fiddle player I might be alarmed by that phrase "clear the decks", particularly coming from such a distinguished Thatcherite as Lord Young. Presumably the words "leaner and fitter" will not be far behind. Nevertheless, the players must face reality. The London orchestras are a financial disaster zone, despite working all the hours God has given, and then overtime.

What's more, they are also without allies. The South Bank (which runs the Festival Hall) seems determined to cut back on orchestral concerts and diversify into "yoof" events, while many in the Arts Council want to divert money from "over-subsidised" London to the regions. A merged "R/LPO", however, could cultivate the super-orchestra image that appeals to many in the British musical establishment — and particularly to Sir Georg Solti, who is believed to be a prime mover behind the whole enterprise.

Anyway, the RPO has certainly responded with enthusiasm to Lord Young's letter. Indeed, Sir John Morgan, in his reply yesterday, says that the two orchestras actually had discussions two years ago on this matter — discussions which were scuppered when the Arts Council instigated that ridiculous waste of time and money called the Hoffmann Report. Those discussions should now be renewed, and urgently. For nearly 20 years I have been writing about the "problem" of London's orchestras. It would be nice to glimpse a solution in my lifetime.

You do not need me to tell you how emotive the VE-Day commemoration was. But I have yet to hear anybody mention the four gents who featured so heavily in the musical programme. Their names are Ross Parker, Hugh Charles, Nat Burton and Walter Kent. Never heard of them? Nor had I. Yet Parker and Charles wrote *We'll Meet Again*, while Burton and Kent penned *The White Cliffs of Dover*.

Those songs arguably had as much impact on ordinary British people as any Churchill speech. So I do hope that Lord Rothschild is planning to set aside a large dollop of lottery money (shall we say £12 million?) to buy the original manuscripts for the nation.

Andrew Gibbon Williams is in two minds about the restoration of a Scottish gem

A real plum or merely Duff?

DONALD STEWART



The staircase at Duff House: a disturbing mix of styles

Doing up old houses may be a national obsession, but few of us will ever know the thrill of breathing new life into somewhere as splendid as Duff House. Dating from 1735, Duff is a Neo-Classical gem by the doyen of early 18th-century Scottish architects, William Adam, and, over the past six years, Historic Scotland and the country's National Galleries have lavished £2.5 million on it.

At Duff, situated on the outskirts of far-flung Banff, Grampian, the father of the more famous Robert was in exuberant, confident mood and produced for the irascible Lord Braco a design as strikingly Baroque in spirit as Vanbrugh's Blenheim Palace. The facade is richly decorated and densely articulated. Duff might plausibly claim to be the most imposing pile in Scotland.

The exterior now sparkles, crisp again after the latest attentions. But all is not quite so well inside where there is ample evidence of a mix-up over what the refurbishment was meant to achieve.

Most obviously, the National Galleries' intention to make Duff into the second of its "outstations" seems to have fallen flat. The picture collection is mostly dross. With the exceptions of a fine, newly restored, full-length portrait by Allan Ramsay, some half-decent Raeburns and a worthy Dutch selection, there is little to enjoy.

But the lack of quality on the walls is less disturbing than what has been done to them and what they contain. For Duff now presents a bewildering mêlée of styles and periods. Coherence has been sacrificed to bright ideas.

It is easy to sympathise. Duff House's history precludes its restoration to any precise period. Lord Braco washed his hands of it and so Adam's interior schemes were never properly realised. Braco's 19th-century descendants, the Earls of Fife, "modernised", adding a wing that the Luftwaffe generously demolished. In 1906, the house was given to the local authority and the contents sold off.

Even so, an attempt to return the house to something like its state during its late Victorian heyday would have been preferable to mocking-up the 18th-century dining-room, lovely in French grey and gilt, while doing out a bedroom as Edward VII, perhaps, might have known it. Consequently, at Duff the visitor will experience something that not only never was but never could have been.

However there are still gorgeous *objets* to peruse at Duff. Around Adam's Great Saloon has been laid out part of an opulent suite of furniture made by Chippendale, the only work he carried out to designs by Robert Adam, while Gobelin tapestries designed by the same genius bedeck the walls.

In other respects, Duff is a pioneer in the stately-homes business. A luxurious high-tech lift installed in one of the towers shuttles visitors from floor to floor, and a neatly disguised sprinkler system will help to ensure that Duff never goes the way of Daphne du Maurier's fictitious Manderley.

● *Duff House, Country House Gallery, near Banff, Banff and Buchan, Scotland (01261 818181)*

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

HAYLEY CARMICHAEL



Profession: Actress and co-founder of the physical theatre troupe Told By An Idiot.

Age: 30

Distinctive features: Tiny with a pale face that can look worn or childlike. Muscularly sturdy, mentally zigzagging, chattering huskily with an animated nervousness.

The company: Carmichael and Paul Hunter, Told By An Idiot's core members, met at Middlesex Poly, where director John Wright was teaching clown and mask work. They have devised outstanding work, including *On The Verge Of Exploding*, which has just been part of the British Festival of Theatre in Romania and in which Carmichael is acutely touching and funny as the little girl. Told By An Idiot is currently performing a new piece, *I'm So Big*, around Britain, then sets off as the first British Council-funded theatre company to tour South Africa since apartheid.

Her other work: She has also been in Theatre de Complicite's *Street of Crocodiles*, David Glass's *Gormenghast* and David Farr's *The Great Highway*. "I want to do more film and television but not naturalistic theatre. I'm interested in the small details of truth — doing that for the camera. But in theatre I like a big visual expression of a great story."

Where did she come from? Croydon. She au-paired and chambermaided her way around Europe, in love with learning languages and being footloose. She fell into theatre by accident, applying to Middlesex for what she thought was a painting course.

Alternative occupations: "I'd love to do a language a week. And every time I do life modelling, I want to draw. Theatrically, the next thing I want to do is to be dropped into a foreign country and stay for a while. I want to be scared but having a good time. Then you do things you didn't know you could."

KATE BASSETT

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The suite sound of perfection

Yo-Yo Ma
Barbican

THERE is a point in all artistic creation when the work leaves both medium and maker behind. That point was reached on Wednesday in the Fifth of Bach's unaccompanied Cello Suites played by Yo-Yo Ma at the start of his five-concert Barbican series.

This is not to imply that the first four in this rare performance of the complete suites held little of beauty, invention or technical wonder. The First Suite took time to get in to step with itself, but from the start of the Suite No 2 Ma's more relaxed, expansive gestures began to release its song.

The first half of the evening ended with the flourish of the Third Suite in C, energised by its powerful scale passages, triumphant trills and ruddy-cheeked Gigue.

Already in the Fourth Suite a change was in the air. Perhaps because of the challenge of its E-flat key and its rhythmic complexity there was, for the first time, a sense of the music's pure abstraction, and an absorption in it by both player and audience.

And then the Fifth Suite. This was played on a different level from anything else in the evening. Man, cello and music breathed as one. The Sarabande seemed to dance on air, the triplets of the second Gavotte became a whirling spiral. At the end of the concert, the audience leapt roaring to its feet; at the end of this Suite alone, there was a long moment of awed silence.

HILARY FINCH

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WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **ABSOLUTE HELL.** Set in a drinking club in the summer of 1945 (excellent timing by the NT). Rodney Ackland's neglected, state-of-an-odd-nation comedy is played by a top-class cast headed by Judi Dench and Greg Hicks. Anthony Page directs.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Previews tonight-May 22, 7.30pm, mat May 20, 2.15pm. Opens May 23 ◪

☐ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN':** Exhilarating song 'n' dance show created from the hits of Fats Waller. Non-stop energy on feet.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 6pm.

◪ **DEALER'S CHOICE.** Patrick Marber's fascinating poker drama: funny one-liners abound, along with perceptions of the roots of gambling.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **DESIGN FOR LIVING.** Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's *menage à trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's award-winner, *with even more sexual rough and* tumble than at the Donmar.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm ◪

◪ **THE DUCHESS OF MALFI.** Juliet Stevenson and Simon Russell Beale in Webster's tragedy of incest, murder and the borderland of the mind. Philip Franks directs Greenwich Theatre's sell-out success.
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1746). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **JEFFREY.** Christopher Villiers plays a New Yorker bored in to fatal abstinence. Tim Luscombe directs Paul Rudnick's Off-Broadway hit with a million camp quips.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until June 10 ◪

☐ **THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE.** Miriam Margolyes plays the tweedy soap heroine in Frank Marcus's excellent comedy with a bite. Serena Evans and Josephine Tewson play her treacherous companion and boss.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-836 6111). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5.30pm.

☐ **LOVE IS A DRUG.** Oxford Stage Company's enjoyable and energetic *commedia dell'arte* piece *La Credula*, *Morta* ("The woman who appeared dead"). Fast and furious farce directed by Antonio Fava.
BAC, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tonight, 8pm; tomorrow, 6pm. Final week. ◪

☐ **THE MAIDEN STONE.** Roger Murray's puzzler, where wild, 13th century road travellers and theatrical hopefuls meet up with Old Nick. A good cast somewhat lost in the storm.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm ◪

◪ **OUR BOYS.** Jonathan Lewis's searching and often funny drama set in a military hospital where the soldiers question the army's commitment.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Today, 5pm and 8.15pm. Final performances. ◪

◪ **RETREAT.** Tim Pigott-Smith plays a man retired to his Welsh cottage and talented newcomer Victoria Hamilton is an unsettling visitor. Sam Walters directs poignant James Saunders play.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats May 18, 2.30pm; Sat, 4pm. ◪

☐ **THE SILVER TASSIE.** Sean O'Casey's fierce and haunting anti-war drama, not seen in London since 1969. What happens to a Dublin soccer hero after he volunteers in 1914.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm ◪

◪ **SIMPATICO.** Powerful acting from Ciaran Hinds, Sean McGinley, Janet McTeer and Tony Haygarth in Sam Shepard's first play for a decade. A shared secret from long ago connects two men now living very different lives. Not vintage Shepard but insightful and gripping.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3pm. Until May 27.

◪ **TRUE LINES.** Devised play directed by John Crowley for Bickerstaffe Theatre Co. Four Irishmen travel the Internet in a comedy that became a hit at last year's Dublin Festival.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until June 3.

◪ **TWELFTH NIGHT:** Ian Judge's delightful production with Desmond Barrit as Malvolio and Emma Fielding as Viola, both irresistible.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. ◪

◪ **VICTOR AND THE LADIES:** Rudolph Walker plays a widower with 18 daughters in Jenny McLeod's sex-farce: a cheerfully preposterous and genially reactionary example of the genre.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. ◪

☐ **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE:** David Thacker's acclaimed production, with Bernard Hill superb as the NY longshoreman consumed by unspeakable love for his niece.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 6800). Tue-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs, 2pm; Sat and Sun, 5pm.

☐ **YO YO:** Prizewinning first play by Dino Mahoney, set in Cornwall where an *irrepressible teenager keeps crossing* the path of a schoolteacher down there on an access visit to his son.
Warehouse, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (0181-680 4060). Tue, 6.30pm; Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 5pm. Until May 28.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia:** Haymarket (0171-930 9800) . . . ◪ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (0171-867-1044) . . . ◪ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . . ☐ **Copacabana:** Prince of Wales (0171-839-5972) . . . ◪ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) . . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (0171-494 5070) . . . ☐ **In Praise of Love.** Apollo (0171-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Indian Ink:** Aldwych (0171-416 6003) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) . . . ☐ **Mama I Want to Sing.** Cambridge (0171-494 5060) . . . ◪ **The Mousetrap.** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . . . ◪ **My Night With Reg:** Criterion (0171-839 4488) . . . ■ **Oliver!.** Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ◪ **A Passionate Woman:** Comedy (0171-369 1731) . . . ☐ **She Loves Me:** Savoy (0171-836 8888) . . . ■ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) . . . ■ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . . . ☐ **The Women In Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

NEW RELEASES

◆ **BOYS ON THE SIDE** (15) Unappealing women's picture with Whoopi Goldberg, Mary Louise Parker and Drew Barrymore. Director, Herbert Ross
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **BULLETS OVER BROADWAY** (15). See Critics' Choice, page 2.

◆ **CIRCLE OF FRIENDS** (15). Adventures of three Irish girls in the 1950s. Highly conventional, slightly charming, with Minnie Driver and Chris O'Donnell. Pat O'Connor directs, from Maeve Binchy's novel.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914096) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **FRESH** (18): Brooklyn boy tries to outwit the local drug lords. Energetic ghetto drama from new director Boaz Yakin.
Electric ◪ (0171-792 2020) **MGM Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** ◪ (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

THE MAN BY THE SHORE. Piquant recollections of a child growing up in Papa Doc's Haiti. A striking film by Raoul Peck.
ICA ◪ (0171-930 3647)

SIN COMPASION (15). Stodgy retelling of *Crime and Punishment* from Peruvian director Francisco J Lombardi.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631)

CURRENT

BEFORE SUNRISE (15). Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy walk and talk in Vienna. Risky, endearing film from *Slacker* director Richard Linklater.
Clapham Picture (0171-498 3323) **MGM Baker St** (0171-935 9772) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914096) **West End** (01426-915 574) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

CAPTIVES (15). Romance in a prison dentist's surgery. Modest British film that loses its way in melodrama, with Tim Roth and Julia Ormond.
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

CLERKS (18): Rough-edged, funny American comedy about a day in the life of a convenience store assistant. Promising debut for young writer-director Kevin Smith.
Clapham Picture (0171-498 3323) **Metro** (0171-437 0757) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0090)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN (18): A decent transfer of Ariel Dorfman's play, but a cramped, impersonal film for Roman Polanski. With Sigourney Weaver, Ben Kingsley, Stuart Wilson.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722)

◆ **DUMB & DUMBER** (12): Idiotic, good-natured comedy that outstays its welcome, with Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels. Director, Peter Farrelly.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

EYES WITHOUT A FACE (18): Welcome revival of Georges Franju's haunting horror film about skin grafting, made in 1959. With Pierre Brasseur, Alida Valli, Edith Scob.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631)

HOOP DREAMS (15). Marvellous documentary by Steve James, Fred Marx and Peter Gilbert about two inner city kids and their dreams of playing professional basketball.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

◆ **I.D.** (18): Undercover cop becomes football hooligan. Simplistic, sometimes powerful British drama. Philip Davis directs Reece Dinsdale, Richard Graham and Claire Skinner
MGM Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

◆ **LEGENDS OF THE FALL** (15): Bogus epic about a Montana family early in the century. With Brad Pitt, Aidan Quinn and Anthony Hopkins. Director, Edward Zwick.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

LITTLE ODESSA (15). Crime and punishment among Brooklyn's Russian immigrants. Ambitious, atmospheric directorial debut by James Gray, with Tim Roth, Maximilian Schell and Vanessa Redgrave.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 8706) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **LITTLE WOMEN** (U). Fresh, tender, feminist version of the 19th-century classic, with Winona Ryder, Susan Sarandon, and Gabriel Byrne.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279)

◆ **THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE** (PG): Nigel Hawthorne reigns supreme as Alan Bennett's tormented monarch. A fine film transfer by stage director Nicholas Hytner; with Helen Mirren and Ian Holm
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721) **MGMs: Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2223) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

MILK MONEY (12). Child believes ten a perfect match for his widowed dad. Forgettable comedy with Melanie Griffith and Ed Harris. Richard Benjamin directs.
Plaza (0800 888997) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **MURIEL'S WEDDING** (15): Ugly duckling becomes swan in P.J. Hogan's boisterous, queasy Aussie comedy.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

NOBODY'S FOOL (15): Endearing slice of small-town Americana, with Paul Newman, Melanie Griffith, Bruce Willis and Jessica Tandy.
Odeon Mezzanine ◪ (01426 915683)

◆ **ONCE WERE WARRIORS** (18): Forceful New Zealand tale of Maori culture ravaged by the urban ghetto. Lee Tamahori directs a powerful cast.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Piccadilly** (0171-437 3561) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **ONE HUNDRED AND ONE DALMATIANS** (U): Disney's pleasant, witty cartoon version of Dodie Smith's book about endangered puppies.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914096) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **OUTBREAK** (18): Taut virus thriller that turns silly. With Dustin Hoffman and Rene Russo and Morgan Freeman. Director, Wolfgang Petersen.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION.** How to survive long decades in prison. Engrossing drama with Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman.
Odeons: Mezzanine ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

THE STEAL (PG): Dismal British comedy-adventure with Alfred Molina and Helen Slater as accomplices in *computer theft. Director, John Hay.*
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

SWNS



Hands on: pupils at Tredworth Infants School get to grips with one of the surreal sculptures created by the children of St James Junior School.

Sculpture as child's play

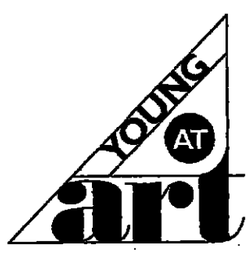
Hilary Finch on an imaginative community scheme in Gloucester to create the artists of tomorrow

A single child's hand-print in plaster has turned out to be the beginnings of a sculpture exhibition, the design inspiration for a pedestrianisation project in a programme of inner-city renewal, and the official logo of a community arts partnership.

When the sculpture department of the Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education joined forces with inner-city Gloucester schools, nobody knew what to expect. The second-year students had never worked with children before: Tredworth Infants and Juniors and St James Junior School had never thought of sculpture as something you did in school.

It all started when an Enterprise in Higher Education project was set up to develop "enterprise" skills to complement the college students' academic work: learning to work as a team, to manage time, publicity and presentation. Gloucester City Council, meanwhile, wanted to develop a pool of young artists on which to draw for their public art programme, as part of the city's Inner Area Renewal work. The Tredworth children were the raw material.

Six students worked on three projects in the three schools. Chinese New Year was about to be celebrated at Tredworth Infants School. Art students Victoria Mace and Chris Dwyer worked with 30 six and seven-year-olds making a huge Chinese dragon



(which spawned at least 20 smaller ones) and constructed a vast dragon-headed wooden throne to be placed in the school's nature garden. The head, Elizabeth Fee, was impressed by the way the children became involved: "It expanded their ideas of what the creative process is and what artists actually do."

What artists actually do a lot of the time, of course, is simply to get discouraged. For Mace, the project gave her a more positive outlook on her own work. "It made us very resourceful. When it came to the exhibition, none of us had any idea how much work was involved. Now we'll know what to expect."

At Tredworth Junior, Rafael Sorribas and Tara Chittenden went into a school with an already lively art department, but one totally unused to three-dimensional work. The children initially made casts of their own hands with clay and plaster, purely to get used to the joy and the mess of such a tactile medium. Then Sorribas placed some groups of upright, inverted branches and twigs in the playground and, based on the children's reaction to these human-looking "figures", began to work on twig-framed plaster-cast figures whose vigorous forms now stalk every corridor.

"The children weren't really into abstract work," says Sorribas, "so we tried to make things they could relate to, but in a more abstract way."

The pupils at St James Junior School created two surreal armchairs — covered with toys and *objets trouvés* (usually from junk heaps) sprayed and plastered over — which proved themselves remarkably play-proof and weatherproof installations. Cheryl Keefe and James Smith shifted the children away from scissors and card to huge sheets of paper, which they could scrunch, rip and knot, and wool and string rather than glue and Sellotape. Teddy bears and plastic sunglasses perched on arm and wing; dangling earrings hung from rusty springs.

Gloucester City Council's Inner Area Renewal team was keen to take ideas forward from the Tredworth project. The "hand" motif is to be incorporated into a design for a doorway and into flooring for a pedestrianisation scheme; the surreal chairs are to be used as a relief design on a wall; the Great Dragon Chair and plaster figures may be moved into a play area.

Paul Drake, Gloucester's arts development officer, is delighted. "There's mileage here for long-term dialogue. It's got off to a flying start." And all the children seem to want to be art students when they grow up.

WHERE TO TOUCH AND FEEL

● Further information from Mary Evans, Liaison Officer, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education, Fullwood Lodge, Park Campus, PO Box 220, The Park, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL50 2QT (01242 532890).

● The college students' own course work can be seen in a sculpture festival called *Locations* in 20 sites around Gloucester's city centre and docks area from May 27 to 29; free entrance; guided tours available.

A remarkable exhibition offers the sighted a chance to experience the world of permanent darkness

Take a step into the kingdom of the blind

Normally, exhibitions that promise a "rich diet of touch, taste, smell and sound" should be avoided. Such descriptions are more applicable to a chi-chi restaurant than an artistic experience, but *Dialogue in the Dark* manages to justify its use of such a sensual tag line.

The installation, which lurks beneath the Queen Elizabeth Hall on the South Bank in London, contains four everyday environments — a living-room with kitchen, a garden, a road crossing and a bar — all in darkness. The aim is to give those who have sight a taste of what it is like to be without it. And it really is dark — there is not even an exit sign to cast its ambient glow.

Visitors are accompanied by a visually-impaired guide, and for once it is the blind leading the sighted. Upon entering the installation, the smell of flowers constitutes the first non-visual assault, and plants brush visitors' legs as they shuffle cautiously forward. There is little doubt that this is the "garden", but initially there is more concern over becoming accidentally intimate with your fellow stumblers. For rest and relaxation, there is a garden bench to sit on from which the birdsong can be enjoyed.

The road crossing is amusing enough with its cones and cars, but a visit to the bar is a real revelation. There, Adam will serve a bottle of Bud or a glass of wine, and he is utterly trustworthy in identifying banknotes. Service is slow, but it would be unreasonable to complain or say, "Can't you see I'm next?"

Dialogue in the Dark is perhaps more of an educational experience than an artistic one. It succeeds in making the "viewer" appreciate blindness, and there is pathos in the realisation that the blind guide remains unseen. But surely that is fair. Or is it? After all, most of us can see the South Bank.

GUY WALTERS

● Dialogue in the Dark: *for information contact the box office at the Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800). Tours last 40 minutes and tickets cost £5, concessions £2.50.*

Open invitation

THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

THE arrival of summer heralds the start of the Open Air Theatre season in London's Regent's Park. Few settings can compare with this. As the evening turns from dusk to dark and the sounds of the night mingle with the poetry of Shakespeare, the whole theatre takes on a magical air. All that is required to make up a perfect balmy night is a special package for Theatre Club members.

And here it is: from June 1 to June 8 members can buy a top-price ticket to see the great historical tragedy *Richard III*, directed by Brian Cox, for just £20. And that's not all, of course — you will also receive a free programme and enjoy a picnic of smoked salmon sandwiches, strawberries and cream and a quarter bottle of champagne. To book, telephone 0171-486 2431/1933

HOW TO BOOK — AND JOIN

TO BOOK, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage **TO JOIN** the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN, or telephone 01206 791737 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673

MUST-SEE DATES FOR YOUR [illegible]

LONDON
Sadler's Wells
May 25
● LONDON City Ballet's acclaimed production of *Giselle* returns to Sadler's Wells, and Theatre Club members are invited to meet the company over a glass of wine and a light buffet. Composed by Adolphe Adam more than 150 years ago, *Giselle* is one of the most celebrated Romantic ballets in the repertoire. It tells the story of a peasant girl who dies of a broken heart when she discovers that the man she has fallen in love with is betrothed to another. Galina Samsova's production, based on the original choreography by Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot, is designed by Peter Farmer and played by the London City Ballet Orchestra. Tickets are £27.50, including dress-circle seats, a free programme and after-show reception. Tel 0171-713 6000

Bridewell Theatre
May 17-June 10
● SPRINGBOARD — the company of outstanding graduates of the National Student Drama Festival and National Student Theatre Company — presents *Tchaikovsky in the Park*, a superb new play by Tim Fountain which tells the true story of Russia's great Romantic composer. Club members can buy tickets for £5 (normally price £7). Tel 0181-883 4586

EDINBURGH
King's Theatre
May 23-24
● BASED on the award-winning television series about village cricket and the people who play and watch it, *Outside Edge* stars Gareth Hunt and Diane Bull. Tickets half-price (normally £9.50, £10.50 and £12.50). Tel 0131-220 4349

SCARBOROUGH
Futurist Theatre
May 16-18
● SAVE £5 on the top two ticket prices (normally £14.50 and £17.50) for *Cinderella on Ice*. Presented by the Russian All Stars — 24 top skaters who have won numerous Olympic medals — the show is an evening of fantastic family fun. Tel 01723 365789

COVENTRY
Belgrade Theatre
May 15-21
● THE world premiere of *Fungus the Bogeyman*, a musical adaptation of Raymond Briggs's book, spearheads the Children's Festival in Coventry Arts Alive. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one on the top two ticket prices (£6 to £12 depending on the performance). Tel 01203 553055

WOLVERHAMPTON
Grand Theatre
June 5-10
● PATRICK MOWER and Irina Brook star in a new production of D.H. Lawrence's erotic masterpiece *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. Club members can save £3 on all performances (tickets normally £4.50 to £14.50), while those at the first night can enjoy a complimentary glass of wine after the performance. Tel 01902 29212

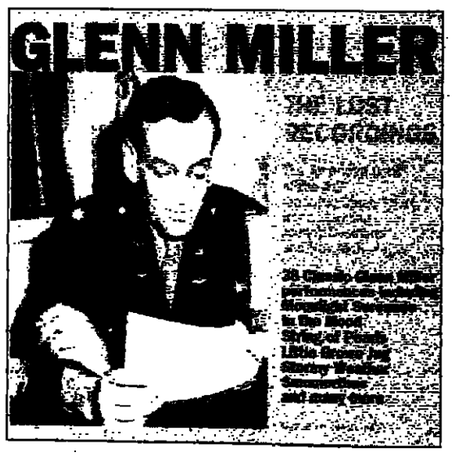
BLACKPOOL
Grand Theatre
June 6-7
● RICHARD ALSTON Dance Company presents an exhilarating programme, sponsored by Pink Leisure and performed by eight former members of London Contemporary Dance Theatre. Tickets £7.50 (normally £9.50). Tel 01253 28372

DARTFORD
Orchard Theatre
May 30-June 1
● MILLICENT MARTIN stars in Michael Frayn's comedy *Noises Off*, alongside Michael Cashman, Patrick Cargill and Mark Curry. With its mix of farce and slapstick the play shows what really goes on backstage. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £9.50 to £12.50). Tel 01322 220000

The WH Smith featured CD

This week's Times/WH Smith recommended recording offers a compilation of classic war time performances from the magician of swing music. This collection of 36 tracks (two CDs), most of which have never been released, has Glenn Miller conducting his magnificent American Band of the Allied Expeditionary Force and features such favourites as Moonlight Serenade, In The Mood, String of Pearls and Little Brown Jug.

Take the coupon below to a WH Smith music counter and you can obtain it at a £3 saving on the normal price of £18.99. Offer valid until June 10, 1995.



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هكذا من الأصل

RECORDINGS: Homage to French operetta; Mahler in chamber; Weller out of the woods

OPERETTA

John Higgins

■ **AIRS ET DUOS D'OPERETTES**
Revoil/Vallin/Baugé
EMI Classics 5 68292 2 0 (2 CDs)★★
EMI's issue on the Belle Epoque label is a homage to the soprano Fanély Revoil and the baritone André Baugé, stars of the Paris theatre in the 1930s and beyond although little known over here. Revoil's talents were especially French: a constant coquetry in the voice coupled with crystalline diction that could inflect almost any phrase with a double meaning. She created the title role in Reynaldo Hahn's *Ciboulette* and was later a distinguished Lazuli in Chabrier's *L'Etoile*, now back in fashion thanks to John Eliot Gardiner and others.

Hahn does not feature here, but Chabrier does, plus a score of delectable numbers from composers still awaiting rediscovery. Most of them traded in the waltzes, romances and couplets favoured by the master himself, Offenbach. He is represented by the almost forgotten *Madame Favart* with a grape-picking number that might have inspired Vivian Ellis when he wrote *Bless The Bride*.

Revoil is confined to the French repertory. Baugé tackles the central Europeans as well: Romberg, Friml and Lehár himself. Nelson Eddy is not too far away, but Baugé sticks to his native tongue and is generally happier with Messager and Lecocq, who require straightforward Gallic charm rather than New World machismo. Alas, none of the duets features Revoil. Instead there is Ninon Vallin, one of the best ever Charlottes in *Werther*, showing how to switch from grand opera to operetta, and the less distinguished Suzanne Laydeker.

Sound quality generally is better for Revoil than Baugé.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **WAGNER**
Six Overtures and Preludes
New Queen's Hall Orchestra/Wordsworth
Eye of the Storm EOS 5001 (2 CDs)★★
THIS recording of Wagner overtures and preludes by the New Queen's Hall Orchestra



Wagner: "period" sound

is mould-breaking in more ways than one. First of all, it offers six pieces by Wagner on "period" instruments (not actually of the composer's time but from the turn of the century), thus pipping Roger Norrington and the London Classical Players to the post (a similar disc is due from them). Second, it boldly espouses the NQHO's philosophy that spontaneity in performance is more important than technical perfection (less than perfect ensemble and fluffed notes thus stand uncorrected). Third, as a corollary to this, the pieces are presented in two performances each, sometimes varying considerably in tempo, duration and other details.

The results are fascinating. Wind and brass have restored to them the pungency of timbre of earlier instruments, while there is generally more character to the sound, less flattening out into blandly homogeneous sonorities, less ear-blasting from untamed wide-bore brass.

On the negative side, in addition to the technical imperfections (not too serious), these are rather lightweight interpretations from Barry Wordsworth. Nevertheless, this is a worthwhile set that thoroughly deserves investigating.

Stephen Pettitt

■ **BOULEZ**
Various works
Soloists/BBC Singers/BBCSO/Orchestre de Paris/Ensemble Intercontemporain/Boulez/Barenboim
Erato 4509-98495-2 (4 CDs)★★★
THE reputation of Pierre Boulez's music is as something severe, far removed from the populist's dream, though I have never had any difficulty



Boulez: exquisite beauties

with its subtle, exquisite beauties, its prismatic play of light, its garnering of expressivity through ritual. This set of four discs (whose re-release coincides with that of two other boxes, one consisting of three discs devoted to Boulez's Erato recordings of music by Stravinsky; the other, of five discs, containing his accounts of masterworks by Schoenberg, Carter, Berio, Kurtag and Xenakis) starts with the signal interpretative triumph of *Pli selon Pli*, that "fold by fold" portrait of Mallarmé, in Boulez's account made with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Phyllis Bryn-Julson and Elizabeth Laurence in 1981.

The set spans nearly 40 years of musical creativity, from *Le soleil des eaux*, written in 1948, to the poignant *Memoriale* of 1986, dedicated to the memory of the flautist Lawrence Beauregard. The journey also takes in works such as *Rituel in memoriam Bruno Maderna*, *Messagesquisse*, the four orchestral *Notations*, *Figures*, *Double Prismes* and *Le Visage Nuptial*, representatives of the workings of one of music's most fascinating, deepest minds.

Challenging it may be, but nobody with an ounce of musical instinct could reasonably ignore this art.

Hilary Finch

■ **MAHLER/SCHOENBERG**
Das Lied von der Erde
Groop/Silvasti/Sinfonia Lahti/Vanska
BIS-CD-681★★★
THE need to make big orchestral works more portable in the days before radio and recordings has provided us, in our days of aural overload, with an exquisitely poignant version of Mahler's song-cycle *The Song of the Earth*. Schoenberg took Mahler's settings of Chinese poetry and scored them for a chamber ensemble of wind quintet, string quintet, percussion, piano, celeste and harmonium, so that the work could travel and become known more widely.

This performance, by the excellent Finnish Lahti Orchestra's chamber ensemble, conducted by Osmo Vanska, tingles with urgent, lithe playing. And two of Finland's finest young singers, mezzo-soprano Monika Groop and tenor Jorma Silvasti, recreate movingly the cycle's sense of a fearful, yet enraptured awareness of mortality.

Silvasti's ardent, boyish tenor rises to the heady opening drinking song and transforms it to ecstasy and despair for *The Drunkard in the Spring*. The miniature wind-band, with piano and brush of cymbal, paints a fragile willow-pattern tableau for *Youth*: and Groop's barely accompanied molten line of melody in the final song of *Departure* takes, daringly, almost as long as the eternity on which it meditates.

Clive Davis

■ **BRUCE ADAMS/ALAN BARNES QUINTET**
Let's Face The Music...
Big Bear ESSCD-269★★
□ **ALAN BARNES**
Thirsty Work
Fret FJCD-106★★★
ALAN BARNES'S music exploits a gratifying web of contrasts: hot and cool, impassioned and reflective, acerbic and tender. Perhaps the most versatile of the young British saxophonists, he adapts to any style without sacrificing his individuality.

He is making waves with the bebop quintet he co-leads with the trumpeter Bruce Adams. Their second album is as bright and snappy as their debut, Adams's solos crackling through the speakers as he breathlessly pursues Barnes through a string of serpentine choruses.

Thirsty Work has even more to recommend it since the varied settings — for sextet, quintet and quartet — allow Barnes even more room for manoeuvre. The result is a continuous stream of surprises: Horace Silver's funky *Ecaroh* gives way to the tripping nostalgia of *Stars Fell On Alabama*, the slightly cheesy beach-party ambience of Sergio Mendes's *Groovy Samba* is followed by a funereal *Sweet and Lovely*. The group arrangements are sturdy enough to keep the players from slipping into a rut, but loose enough to allow for maximum spontaneity, and Barnes's youthful sidemen respond with fire and wit.

David Sinclair

■ **PAUL WELLER**
Stanley Road
Go! Discs 828 619★★★
ALTHOUGH *Stanley Road* is bound to be branded Son of *Wild Wood*, and marked down accordingly, Paul Weller's latest offering is, if anything, a stronger collection of songs than its much-admired predecessor. True, the choice of Dr John's gumbo-voodoo classic *I Walk On Gilded Splinters* was ill-advised. But elsewhere, especially on the singles, *Out Of The Sinking* and *The Changing Man*, Weller plays to his natural strengths, chopping out words, chords and the odd, woozy guitar solo with tremendous flair.

As on *Wild Wood*, the sound is defiantly 1960s retro, but whereas *Wild Wood* came with a full complement of acoustic songs and bucolic lyrics, *Stanley Road* is a harder, more electric album with a taut momentum.

There is a thread of bitter disillusion in the lyrics, an emotion well suited to Weller's scornful delivery: "Am I so jaded I can't see or feel?", "Sugartown has turned so sour". But gentler songs, such as *Pink On White Walls* and *Time Passes* have a wistful quality, lending a nicely rounded feel to another landmark album in this man's chequered career.

David Sinclair

■ **McALMONT & BUTLER**
Yes
Hut HUTDX53/DG53★★
THE debut single by the glam/soul partnership of singer David McAlmont and Suede's errant guitarist Bernard Butler comes in two CD packages. Both start with *Yes*, a sprightly, pop-rock tune blessed with a wonderfully catchy chorus.

The two B-sides on HUTDG53 — *Don't Call It Soul* and *How About You?* — are both of the drifting variety.



McAlmont: suspect ploy

On DX53, however, the supporting tracks are in a more rock'n'roll vein, with *What's The Excuse This Time?* echoing the vocal sound of Prince, and *Disappointment* providing the package's most obvious musical link with Suede.

It remains a suspect marketing ploy, but the case for buying the same song twice has rarely been more persuasive.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

NEW ON VIDEO: From a killing spree in Paris to the worst film in the world

■ **KILLING ZOE**
PolyGram, 18, 1994
ZOE, funnily, never gets killed. But plenty of others do in this callous and flashy thriller from Tarantino buddy Roger Avary. Jean-Hughes Anglade leads a gang botching a bank robbery in Paris, their minds impaired by the previous night's overdose of drink, heroin and Dixieland jazz; Eric Stoltz plays the group's wary American safecracker. Not a film with anything to say, but if you want blood, nihilism and a smattering of style, here they are. Available to rent.

■ **THE LADY OF THE CAMELIAS**
Arrow, 15, 1981
ISABELLE HUPPERT is as watchable as ever as the Paris courtesan who inspired Dumas's play *Camille*, though the American dubbing mauls your ears and the entire production is over-upholstered with plush settings. Italian director Mauro Bolognini coasts through the show with impersonal efficiency.

■ **MUCH ADO ABOUT MOUSING**
MGM/UA, U
VOLUME six of the Tom and Jerry video series includes four cartoons from the 1960s, when the cat and mouse antics were beginning to lose their appeal and corners were cut with the animation. But the tape perks up with *Kitty Foiled*, a gem from 1948, where Tom's desperate measures included running over Jerry with a toy train.

■ **PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE**
Pickwick, PG, 1956
WHILE Britain waits with bated breath for Tim Burton's *Ed Wood*, a loving biography of the man once voted the world's worst film director, the master's most famous work hits the video shelves. The badness of this sci-fi fodder is undeniable, but in no other film do zombie acting, tinpot sets, collapsing props and absurd dialogue combine to cast such a hypnotic spell. Also available:



Cash withdrawal: Jean-Hughes Anglade leads a drug-crazed gang of bank robbers in Paris in *Killing Zoe*

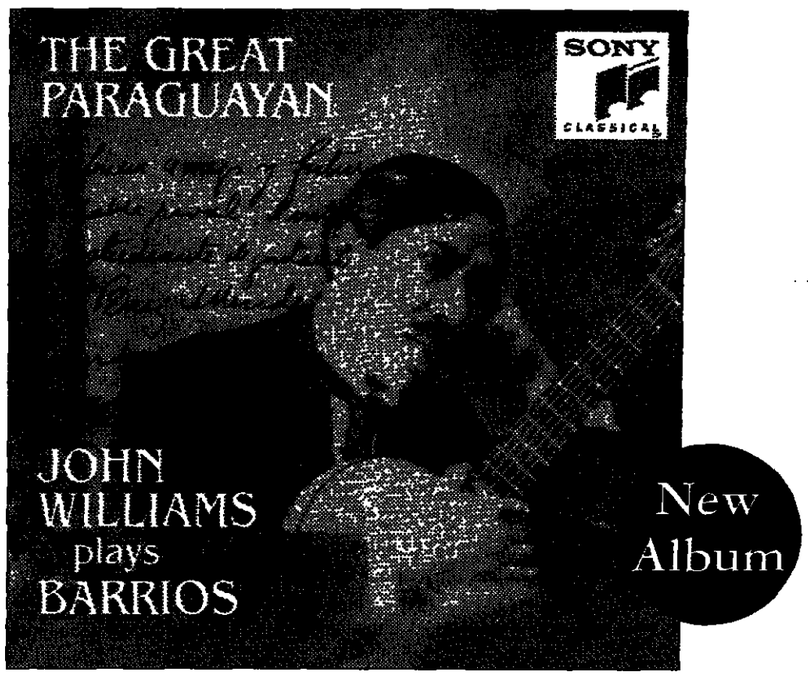
Wood's equally ludicrous *Night of the Ghouls* (1958) and a crime thriller *Jail Bait* (1954) — by Wood's bizarre standards almost a well-made film.

■ **SECOND BEST**
Warner, 12, 1994
WILLIAM HURT is not obvious casting for a withdrawn Welsh postmaster with NHS specs, ginger hair and a trainspotter's anorak. But his laid-back acting suits the hero of David Cook's novel, a lonely man seeking fulfilment by adopting a prickly 11-year-old who remains fiercely loyal to a father serving time in jail. The central relationship is delicately observed, laced with wry humour, and child actor Chris Cleary Miles is quite a find. Directed by Chris Menges.

■ **SPIRITS OF THE DEAD**
Arrow, 18, 1967
OTHERWISE known as *Histoires Extraordinaires* or *Tales of Mystery*, this portmanteau film puts three European directors to work on the lesser-known stories of Edgar Allen Poe. Roger Vadim extracts little from *Metzengerstein* except Jane Fonda prancing about in fancy costumes. But Louis Malle's treatment of *William Wilson*, with Alain Delon as an Austrian officer haunted by his double, has a clinical splendour and exquisite design. The chief glory is Fellini's *Toby Dammit*, with Terence Stamp as a dissolute actor on the road to hell. The dubbed English-language soundtrack causes problems at times: in the Malle segment, Brigitte Bardot's new voice is laughable.

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George Plumptre, The Times Gardener, looks at garden settings for outdoor operas

CLIVE BARDA



At Garsington Manor, near Oxford, performances are given on the stone terrace to one side of the house. A stone-pillared loggia makes a perfect stage backdrop

Rossini among the roses

The idyllic mix of gardens and opera is celebrated in performances each summer at a number of country houses. Even when the opera is staged indoors, the gardens are there to be enjoyed during a pre-performance stroll or the interval for dinner.

When it was announced that the Glyndebourne opera house was to be enlarged, many devotees were concerned that the garden might suffer. Their worries were that, whatever the quality of the performances, the garden might not remain integral to Glyndebourne's appeal. Admiring the plants and the views to the Sussex Downs and picnicking beside the garden's long, white border of summer perennials and shrubs, completed the artistic feast which opera alone might not offer.

They need not have worried. The rebuilt opera house is surrounded by even more garden. New areas, in particular the Figaro garden linking into a walled garden, extend up one side of the opera house. They add to the old garden of yew-hedged lawns and borders in front of the house, which are the traditional places for picnics.

Garsington Manor, near Oxford, is a house and garden made famous by Philip and Lady Ottoline Morrell, who lived there from 1915 to 1926, and entertained their Bloomsbury friends, such as Virginia Woolf. Under the present owners, Leonard and Rosalind Ingrams, summer opera performances are in their seventh season and the superb garden is integral to visitors' enjoyment. Performances are given on the broad, stone terrace to one side of the house. Behind the terrace, the stone-pillared loggia designed by Philip Morrell makes a perfect stage backdrop. In front is the main lawn, where the audience sits in a covered stand. The lawn slopes gently to the pool terrace with classical statues standing against alcoves in the surrounding yew hedges, each figure pin-pointed with its own spotlight.

To one side of the terrace is the entrance to the walled parterre, Garsington's garden forte. This is planned to be in full flower during the opera season in June and July. The pattern of box-hedged beds, divided by paths lined with pairs of slender columnar yews, are filled with shrub roses and numerous annuals such as antirrhinums, cosmos, massed sweet peas and standard fuchsias.

The Garsington parterre demonstrates how practical considerations dictate a successful union of opera and garden. For all owners of country houses offering opera, garden management is geared to an annual peak when their performances are staged. The vagaries of summer weather usually mean that the best-laid plans are put to the test. Border planting of perennials or shrubs geared to a late-May/June zenith can be over before the first word is sung. This year is no exception. Places where the opera season starts in May, such as Glyndebourne and Pyrford Court, Surrey, are faced with late tulips, peonies and azaleas, which would usually last well into June.



Wisteria arch at Pyrford Court

At Glyndebourne, Lady Christie's solution is to stock up with a good supply of annuals that come into flower over a long season, and abundant reserves that can be controlled in a greenhouse and put out when needed. She cites the example of the daturas, whose appearance is closely associated with the closing weeks of the Glyndebourne season in August. Carefully brought on in greenhouses, these decorative plants are managed so that their luxuriant foliage and richly scented trumpet-like flowers provide a sumptuous display at the right time.

There are other considerations that make for maximum audience enjoyment. Sheltered enclosures, protected by yew hedges, as at Glyndebourne or Garsington, are an advantage for picnics. Another bonus is that there are paths leading to different areas of a garden, enabling people to disperse and move around without a bottleneck. The Figaro garden at Glyndebourne was designed with this in mind; and some paths were made wide enough, and without steps, for wheelchairs.

Some places become renowned for a particular garden highlight, such as Pyrford Court's wisterias. The Court was built in 1906 in Georgian style by the architect Clyde Young for Lord Iveagh. The garden was designed by his wife, with advice from Gertrude Jekyll, her friend and near neighbour. The operas, which were started by the present owners, Cyril and Jill Laikin, are this year celebrating their tenth season. The performances are fortnightly, from late May to August. During the early weeks, the mass of wisterias which cover the house, the summerhouse and two long pergolas bordering adjoining sides of the four-acre main lawn, are something no visitor forgets.

At How Caple Court in Herefordshire, the 11 acres of classical garden provide an enlarged, theatrical stage set. Laid out by the grandfather of the present owner, Peter Lee, and his wife Hilda, they combine architectural terraces with exuberant water features, such as the water staircase. Performances take place on a large, sunken lawn shaped like a natural arena; a sheltered site for a stage surrounded by a semi-circle of tiered seating.

This is the National Trust's centenary year and its programme of outdoor musical events has been much enlarged. Operas, or more correctly in some cases, operettas, are being performed in a selection of the Trust's most enjoyable garden settings, such as Basildon Park, Berkshire; Polesden Lacey, Surrey; Avebury Manor, Wiltshire; Anglesey Abbey, Cambridgeshire; and Blickling Hall, Norfolk.

English Heritage is mounting a similar opera programme, Belsay Hall in Northumberland being the outstanding setting of its various country house locations.

Gardens to visit, page 22

FACT FILE

☐ Glyndebourne, Ringmer, East Sussex. Season: May 22-Aug 27; tickets from £105 (less for restricted view). For information and bookings call 01273 812321.

☐ Garsington Manor, near Oxford. Season June 11-July 9. Tickets from £65. Presently fully booked but check cancellations on 01865 361636. (Garden open until Oct 1).

☐ Pyrford Court, near Woking, Surrey. Season May 20-Aug 26. Tickets from £52 (£47 for friends of Pyrford). For information call 01483 765880. (Garden open May 13-14 and Oct 15).

☐ How Caple Court, Herefordshire. One performance June 17. Tickets from £20. For information call 01989 740626. Garden open Easter until Oct, Mon-Sat (Sun, May-Oct).

☐ For information about all National Trust performances send an A5 SAE to: The National Trust, PO Box 39, Bromley, Kent BR1 3XL.

☐ English Heritage details on 0171-973 3427.

GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON replies to readers' letters

Q If you weed the lazy way, by simply pulling off the emergent leaves, there should be an ideal time to do it. Too early, and there is still energy left in the root to make more leaves. Too late, and the new leaves are making energy to feed the roots. I am thinking especially of bindweed. When should I decapitate it? — John Struthers, Southampton.

A As a rule, allow a plant to make all the growth it can, short of making a useful area of leaf. Bracken, for instance, should be cut when it has put all its energy into making that tall stalk but before the leaves unscroll from it. Repeating this treatment over three or more years will often kill it.

Ground elder is best given no quarter at all, as it spreads leaf so quickly. Pull the leaves off as soon as you can get hold of them. If it is lurking under shrubs, slide the hover mower under the bushes as you pass. Leave no enclave untouched.

Bindweed is harder than either of these to defeat by constant defoliation. Nipping off finger-length wisps has to be done with determined regularity, and always there will be those stems which have sidled into some other plant and hope to pass unnoticed in a crowd.

It is best to wait until the bindweed stems are a foot or so long, and then pull them off, hopefully with the top of the white root attached. Burn or bin these. If you leave them lying around you will find blackbirds flinging the white roots around the bed, disappointed that they are not worms. They do the same with the perennial scarlet nasturtium *(Tropaeolum speciosum)*, whose roots are disturbingly similar.

You can, of course, train bindweed on to canes and then rub the leaves with a weedkiller containing glyphosate. This will kill it — eventually.

Q Last year I planted two *Magnolia soulangeana* in my lawn. The soil is heavy clay. This year they have not flowered, but they are coming into leaf. Should I improve the soil, prune them, or feed them? — Mrs I. Da Silva, Hampstead, north London.

A The question is, are they growing properly? If so, flower will follow. Do not prune them: the only pruning they will ever need is, perhaps, to restrict the size one day. Magnolias have a nasty habit of sitting dormant after planting, neither growing nor flowering satisfactorily. The best recipe is to put an undisturbed pot-grown rootball into a well-prepared hole, with lots of coarse manure and compost added in advance. Grow it fast, like a cabbage, for leaf and stem, for a year or two. Then let it settle down to flowering, giving an annual mulch of compost to satisfy its greedy, succulent roots.

Perhaps you planted your magnolias properly and they are content to make wood rather than flower for this year? Perhaps you made a mean hole of unimproved clay and they are sulking? So long as they grow well this year, leave them alone and wait.

If they are refusing to grow well, either replant them in better soil, or cut them down to six inches next spring and shock them into action.

Q I am going to Greece to stay with friends and would like to take seeds as a present. They are busy restoring a property and have no time for gardening. I would like to sow something pretty for them that will stand heat, drought and neglect. — Mrs S. Rhodes, Letchworth, Hertfordshire.

A Take some spider flowers *(Cleome)*. They grow so much better in hot climates that you wonder why we bother with them here. They will be bushy and a yard across, like pink clumps of *Euphorbia characias*. Take that, too; it will self-seed in future years.

Against white-painted walls, which you find everywhere in Greece, the red tassels of love-lies-bleeding *(Amaranthus caudatus)* make a fabulous, stark display. The tall double opium poppies will do well, as will California poppies *(Eschscholzia)* and prickly poppies *(Argemone)*.

Take, too, the giant fennel *(Ferula communis)*, which will make a mound of feathery foliage and, in future years, send up a barge pole of particularly stunning green flowers.

● Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.

WEEKEND TIPS

- *The seed of spring and early-summer flowering biennials, such as wallflowers, honesty and forget-me-nots, should be sown into a seedbed for flowering next year.*
- *Plant half-hardy annuals and tender perennials in tubs and hanging baskets and keep them in a greenhouse or conservatory until the end of the month.*
- *Half-hardy or tender annual perennials plants you have raised should now be hardened off for planting out.*
- *Prune all varieties of* Clematis montana *immediately after flowering. Pruning is necessary only to keep a plant to desired size or shape, but doing it later will remove new growth on which the plant produces flowers.*

There are few sights in May as beautiful as a pergola heavily draped in the laburnum's vibrant colour, says **Stephen Anderton**

The tree that drips golden treasure

Nothing but moss grows under our laburnum tree. In May, Pickwickian bees bumble about on its soft carpet, drunk or overloaded with nectar. Maybe they have an awful headache, for the light under a big laburnum is, for the three weeks of flowering, nothing but yellowness.

I remember planting laburnums as a child, and being impressed by the roots which were like no roots I had ever seen before — fat, rubbery, blunt-ended like new pencils, and curiously yellow.

Gardeners can get very sniffy about laburnums, mostly perhaps because the colour is so strong, so insistent while it lasts, so very . . . yellow. The more I see of laburnums, the more I want to grow them — well, and in a big way.

The laburnum pergolas at Bodnant Gardens, in north Wales, and at Barnsley House, near Cirencester in Gloucestershire, are legendary. They are science-fiction corridors of vegetable matter, and a tribute to the loving care given them by gardeners. Every inch of interwoven stem drips yellow stalactites of flower, cleverly promoted by spur-pruning, as you would an apple tree for blossom and fruit. Every winter, fresh stems are tied in to thicken the cover, and the new shoots are pruned back to the spurs.

But what fun it would be to train laburnum to the top of an open, flat-topped, wooden pergola, so that the flowers hung down as a fringe from each cross-member; in a series of receding stripes, like tassled pelmets. With careful training, laburnum could be used to clothe a house end-wall top to bottom in a blanket of flower, or worked in a more precise pattern of stems, such as running arches or a spiral twisting its way around a pillar.



The laburnum's yellow stalactites of flower

The two common species of laburnum, *L. alpinum* and *anagyroides*, both from central and southern Europe, have been crossed to produce *L. x watereri* 'Vossii', which has particularly long swags of flower. It is virtually sterile, too, so it produces almost no pods or seeds, which is a mixed blessing. I rather like to hear the clusters of dry seed pods of *anagyroides* clattering on the tree in the winter winds. They give the tree another season of interest.

With 'Vossii' all that is lost; there are no pods. But on the other hand it is safer for younger children because laburnum seeds and pods are poisonous: come to that, so are the leaves. If you need a structurally sanitised garden, perhaps you should not grow laburnum at all, though 'Vossii' offers something of a compromise. Seedling laburnums vary a lot in the length of the flower swag and in the intensity of the colour. The Dorothy Clive garden, at Willoughbridge, Staffordshire, has a long, low pergola, planted with a range of seeding laburnums, each with a subtly varied flower, and interspersed here and there with the "pink laburnum", *Laburno-cytisus adamii*, a cross between broom and laburnum. The sudden lapse into pink is most disconcerting.

Young laburnum bark is attractively pale green and smooth. Seedlings grow at an astonishing speed and the pliable, sappy stems are amenable to all kinds of twisting and training. Break one and you see the ever-present yellow pigment under the bark. You might almost expect the wood to be yellow, but it is creamy white at the outside with a dark brown heart-wood. It is dense, close-grained and much prized by turners and cabinet makers. Even timber merchants, who like to pretend that the market for whatever wood you want to sell is always depressed, will admit to the value and desirability of laburnum wood.

GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY



Superb *Laburnum x watereri* 'Vossii' at Barnsley House gardens in Gloucestershire

If I had a choice between cutting down a good, healthy laburnum tree or taking a considered risk on my child eating bits of this admittedly poisonous tree, I would keep the tree. That age when babes put everything in the mouth is brief enough: I could face snipping the spent flowers off a small tree, if necessary, just for one or two seasons. Human life, after all, is short, and laburnum trees can live much longer than us.

The big laburnum in our garden is, frankly, a monster, and is almost a wood in itself, in the middle of other trees. In its youth it must have fallen over, but it was left to survive. It now measures more than 35 paces across the canopy. Every year new, vertical trunks arise from the horizontal main trunks, leaning outwards to the light and eventually leaning down in their turn, sometimes splitting at the base but rarely fatally. And so the spread continues. It would be hard to put an age to it because no one stem represents its full lifespan, but it must be well over 100.

When I gardened in London, on thin powdery city soil, laburnums would regularly keel over in middle age, when the weight of canopy got too much for those simplistic, cartoon roots to support. Usually the tree had to go, to save its neighbours from suffocation or flattening. But sometimes I wish I had let them survive, and see how they made good lying on one elbow. If Roman emperors could spend half their life luxuriating on one elbow, why should not a tree?

Certainly, a laburnum which has heaved is not necessarily going to die. There is a case for thinning some branches, making it look a little less toppled, and waiting and seeing. So long as one half of the root plate is still in the ground and supplying the tree with food and water, then it stands a good chance of going on to be its own small grove of laburnum trunks in a few years.

Be a little patient, and see what pleasures await.

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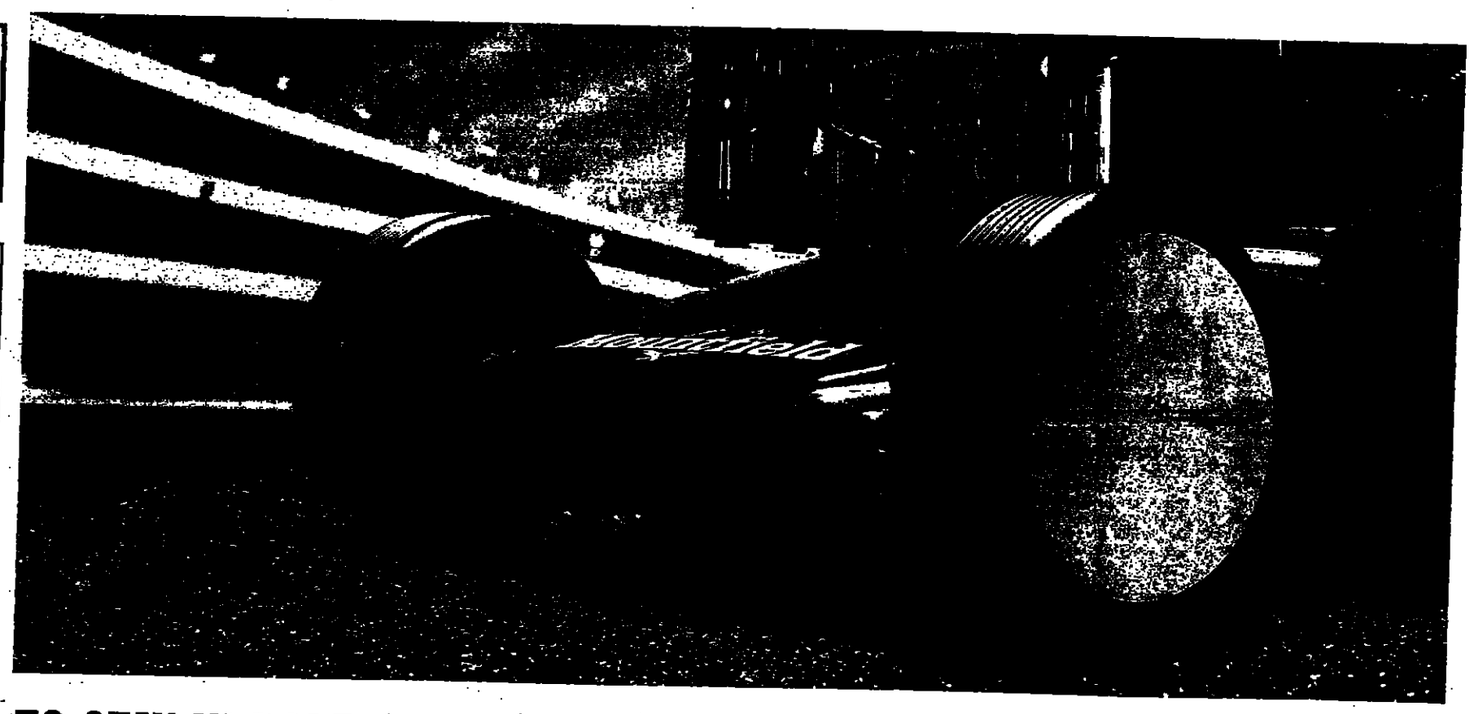
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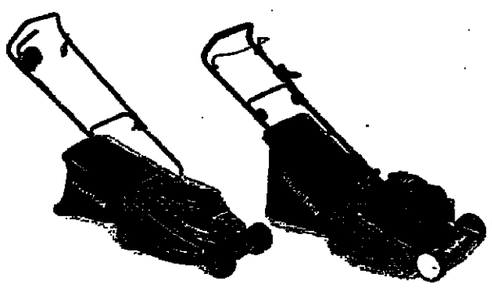
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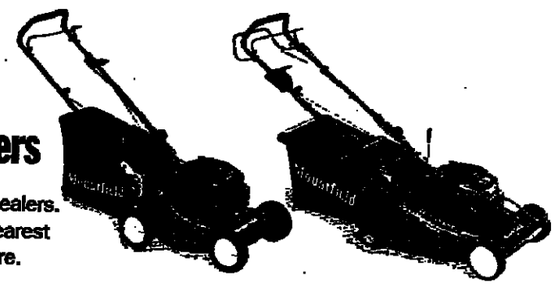
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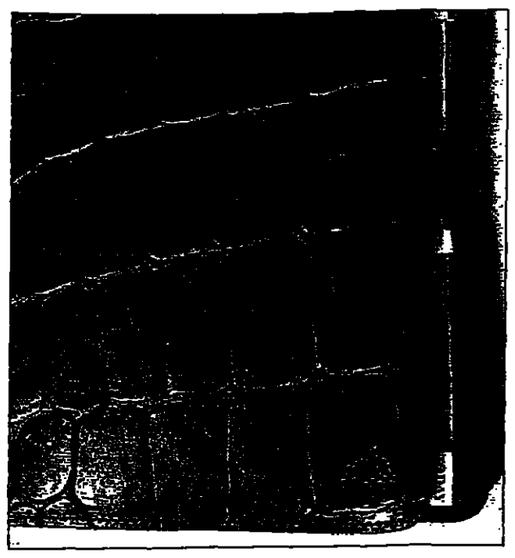
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Personal organisers are no longer the symbol of yuppie affluence — now everyone has one. **Alicia Drake** offers a guide to the latest designs

IN THE 1980s, personal organisers became a status symbol for the young. Expensive, seemingly essential, every self-respecting yuppie clutched a fat organiser under the arm. The recession was closely followed by a dip in sales, but in the past two years organisers have been reborn in a very different form. They are no longer an aspirational accessory reserved for City types. Prices have dropped, and a wider range of brands, styles and sizes have been introduced.



Mulberry Planner

MULBERRY has seen a growth in sales of planners, which founder and designer Roger Saul attributes to "people getting more personal. They are moving away from computer pocket books and writing down information again."

The classic Mulberry organiser (above) is made from embossed cowhide and is a favourite with women. Available in three sizes, the largest being 18cm x 23cm, all planners include features such as a credit card holder, diary, year planner, notepad, list of forthcoming British social and sporting events and a guide to some of the best restaurants around the world. Priced at £215, it is stylish but weighty.

● *Mulberry, 11 Gees Court, London W1M 5HQ (0171-493 2546). Available by mail and also stocked at selected House of Fraser stores and John Lewis.*

Gidden Agenda

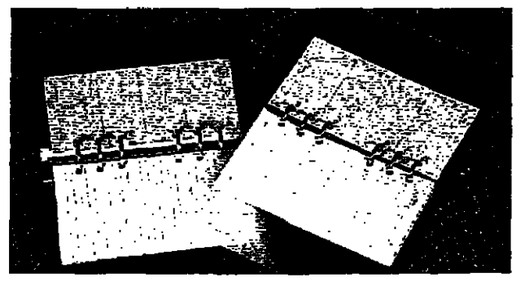
LONDON saddlers W & H Gidden make stylish agendas, available in bridle leather or thunder leather. They come in two sizes and in tan, chestnut, nut or black. Priced at £220 and £250, both sizes contain a diary, address book and notepaper.

● *W & H Gidden, 15d Clifford Street, London W1X 1RF (0171-734 2788); 1 Burlington Arcade, London W1V 9AB.*

Sherwood Filofax

THE Sherwood Filofax is a smart classic, made from calf leather in a range of finishes from "natural" to a lizard or crocodile print. Priced at £49.95, it includes a diary, address sheets, personal expenses and credit card holder, and has a covered zip pocket and snap fastener. It is available in black, brown, red, green, burgundy or blue.

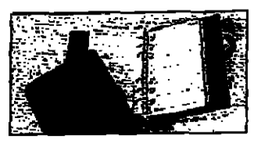
● *For Filofax outlets, see College and School Filofax, right.*



Muji Personal Planner

THE Japanese shop, Muji, has Personal Planner covers (above) in aluminium (£18.50), black fibre-board (£6.75) or clear plastic (£5.50). Insertions are sold separately.

● *16 Great Marlborough Street, London W1 (0171-494 1197); 38 Shelton Street, London WC2 (0171-379 1331); 157 Kensington High Street, London W8 (0171-376 2484); 63-67 Queen Street, Glasgow (0141-248 7455). Concessions in Liberty stores in Brighton, Oxford and Cheltenham.*



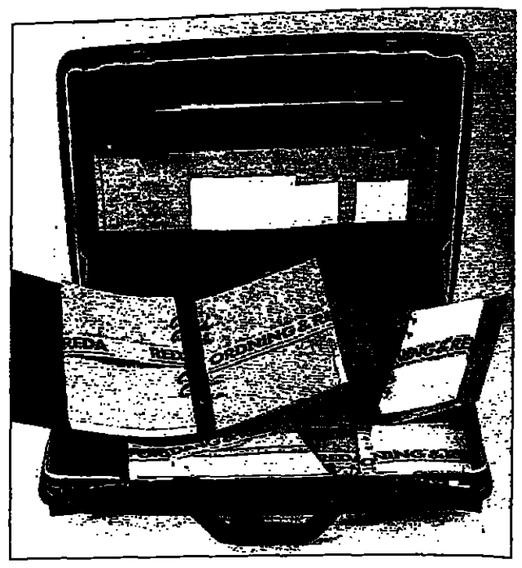
College and School Filofax

THESE are two fairly new models for Filofax, designed with students in mind.

The College Organiser (above) is made from suede-effect vinyl and is available in blue, green, red or black. It has pockets for credit and student cards, a notepad on the back cover, a pen loop and a fastener. Priced at £17, its contents include an academic year diary, timetables and address sheets.

The School Filofax is similar in content but comes in black nylon finish only. Priced at £10.99.

● *Filofax items are available at selected branches of John Lewis, House of Fraser, WH Smith, Boots or ring 0171-432 3000 for your nearest stockists.*



Ordning & Reda personal organiser

ORDNING & Reda is a Swedish stationery shop specialising in hand-made paper products. Its organisers (above) are shaped like ring-binders with no fastener and come in A5 and A6 sizes. They are available in a black, blue, mushroom, red or grey fabric finish and cost £12.50 for the A5 size and £10 for A6.

The insert pack includes a diary, year planner and address section, and costs £10 (A5) or £7.50 (A6). Pads of recycled paper (£2.50) and plastic stick-on pockets for business cards and data discs (20p to 70p) are also available.

Although all the organiser contents are written in Swedish, it is actually not too difficult to follow them, and the overall look is hip and alternative.

● *Ordning & Reda, 22 New Row, Covent Garden, London WC2 (0171-240 8090).*

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Rachel Campbell-Johnston in sunglasses by Versace, priced £115

Casting light on summer's shades

Sunglasses protect against cataracts and eye strain. **Rachel Campbell-Johnston** takes a long, cool look at this year's range



MICHAEL POWELL

For those who like designer labels, where better to wear them than on your face? Versace's pewter Medusa head logo, inset, matches the pewter mirror lenses, £99

"Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses," declared Dorothy Parker. But when it comes to shades, such sententiousness is turned on its head. Sunglasses transform you in one deft stroke from frump to fashionplate, from geek to groover.

"Sunglasses can be tribal, like a mask," says Tony Gross, of Cutler & Gross. "People wear them because they look good, not because the sun is shining — some of my styles look best on top of the head, worn like an Alice band." But sunglasses are about more than fashion. They provide important protection against solar radiation. After two hours in bright sunlight unprotected eyes can have trouble adjusting to night vision.

And it gets worse. Ultraviolet rays can cause serious damage, including cataracts, corneal blistering, and, in extreme cases, keratitis, or snow blindness. Infra-red rays can be absorbed into the lens making it more sensitive to UV damage, or absorbed by the cornea creating a drying effect and fatigue.

The colour of the lenses in a pair of sunglasses has nothing to do with filtering out the glare. If they are darkened but not protective it is more damaging to wear them than not. A safe guide is the British Standard BS2724 which measures the degree of protection, the degree of distortion and the strength of the lenses. (Glasses imported from Europe have a different CE89686 standard.) The quality of the UV filter can be assured by checking for the manufacturer's UV400 standard which eliminates both UVA and UVB rays. An anti-reflection coating is also a good idea. By cutting down excess reflection this not only makes the lens clearer and more attractive, but also reduces strain by increasing the transmission of light. This is especially important for drivers.



For men, clockwise from left: shades from Ray-Ban, Visions and Marks & Spencer

Most efficient brands of sunglasses — and this certainly does not include the fake Ray-Bans which suitcase-wielding touts offer you for a fiver — have more or less the same quality of lens. When it comes to designer eyewear you pay for the style — the satisfaction of having specs to suit your sports car. A pair of Jackie O-shaped Versace shades with a trademark Greek key pattern in gilt will complement your Mustique tan perfectly, but will set you back about £115.

For men, the Medusa head Versace logo embossed in pewter to match pewter mirror lenses set in sleek black frames will cost about £99. But for those who like designer labels, what better place to wear them than on your face?

However, if a more discreet exclusivity is your style, then Cutler & Gross is a good place to look. Its creations eclipse the eyes of royalty, rockstars and supermodels. Designs start at around £79 for off-the-shelf glasses and rise to about £185 for tailor-mades. Its sunglasses can be made with prescription lenses or especially moulded to fit your face.

Cutler & Gross's stylistic range mutates faster than scientific theories on UV light. It has everything from classics to glamour frames, from clip-ons to "crystal tips" — this year's whackiest design which combines clear frames with pink and blue lenses — the perfect sugar coating to Barbie-doll fashions.

Lenses come in an exotic variety of tints ranging from mint green to orange mirror, with more practical variations along the way — such as Computer Lilac, which is designed to cut down the glare from VDU-screens, or Sloane Dark Green which, by keeping contrast clear, is excellent for driving.

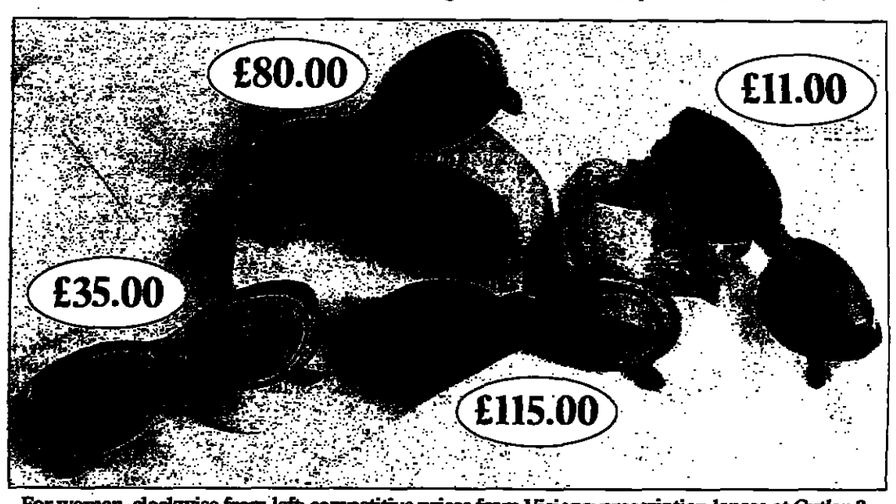
But if too much choice seems blinding, then a good alternative are the classic Ray-Bans. Its Wayfarer range costs upwards of £65, and although the glass lenses can be a bit heavy for active wear, they are shatterproof and scratch less easily than plastic ones. Ray-Bans are also extremely hard-wearing.

More expensive glasses have strong joints which can be tightened periodically, and frames are made of quality plastics which won't become brittle. But for those who lose their sunglasses long before they wear them out, or chew at the arms until they begin to dissolve, a cheaper pair might suit, as long as the lenses are good.

Visions has a wide selection of metal, plastic and handmade frames, costing from about £10.50 to £35. Alternatively Marks & Spencer has some of the best value and the most effective sunglasses. The frames are light and pliable, the designs basic but classic, and a pair will set you back just £11 — a price that includes cord, glass case and cleaning cloth.

So this summer, if you don't want to find yourself staring at life as it really is, slip on some shades — draw down the blinds to the windows of your soul — and prepare yourself for some languid summer posing.

● *Cutler & Gross, 16 Knightsbridge Green, London SW1 (0171-581 2250); Marks & Spencer, at stores nationwide; Ray-Ban and Visions sunglasses available nationwide; Versace, for stockists, call 0171-499 1862.*



For women, clockwise from left: competitive prices from Visions; prescription lenses at Cutler & Gross; light frames from Marks & Spencer; and glasses to match your Mustique tan from Versace

Jerry's Home Stores specialises in well-made, well-priced basics with an American flavour

Where to see the stars and stripes

To the delight of those who previously filled suitcases with typically American homewares on trips across the Atlantic, the best popcorn poppers, taco fryers and feast-sized crockery are now available at Jerry's Home Store in Fulham, London, Kingston upon Thames, southwest London, and a concession in Harvey Nichols, London.

Jerry's, opened in 1993, was the brainchild of 39-year-old Jeremy Sacher, the great-grandson of Michael Marks, the founder of Marks & Spencer.

Jerry's specialises in well-made basics at affordable prices. What it does not set out to be, says Sacher, is at the cutting edge of fashion. "We don't offer the latest designer gadgets," he says. "We do classic, functional products, all presented with a distinctively American flavour."

Jerry's now sells more classic KitchenAid mixers, at £329, than any other outlet in the UK, and has consequently been granted the retailing coup of exclusive stocks in the form of the brand new, sparkling, all-chrome version, which sells at a hefty £399.

Exclusivity is the vital ingedient in the success of the store. About 80 per cent of the merchandise is only available from Jerry's.

One of its bestselling items is the classic American Popcorn Popper (£27.50). White Cat Corn from Hamburg, Illinois (£4.50 per jar), and a selection of seasonings complete the package. Perfect for popcorn is the Stars and Stripes bowl (£11.50). Also available in the same range is a huge pitcher, which costs £23.95, and chunky flag mugs for £9.95. The range is complemented by decent-sized denim napkins at £4.95.



American cookbook, £6

The use of American place names to identify merchandise is popular at Jerry's. It has Chicago, Vermont and Manhattan cutlery ranges, Boston Beer Flutes (£3.50) and Harvard Tankards (£12.95). The Nantucket tableware collection comes with bright primary-coloured rims (£1.95 for a dinner plate, £1.65 for a side plate).

Its ever-increasing range of cookbooks is popular too. Titles such as *Dad's Own Cookbook* (£9.99) and *The Gone With The Wind Cookbook* (£6) sit alongside publications by the US cookery specialists Williams Sonoma (£11.95 each). Customers are encouraged to ring the store with queries about translating American recipes for English use — and Jerry's stocks a full range of American measuring utensils to help to smooth the way when gathering ingredients.



The chrome KitchenAid, £399, is exclusive to Jerry's

Foodstuffs have been a surprise hit. They include standard stocks such as Texas Red Snapper Bloody Mary Mix (£3.50) and drums of East Shore seasoned pretzels (£7.95). The store has everything you need to bake, and sells goldfish-shaped cheese crackers packaged in a plastic beach bucket (£5.95). Southern tastebuds are satisfied with Legend Barbeque Sauce (£3.50), which adds the final touch to food cooked in a Taco Fryer (£6.95), and served on the Taco Rack (£6.95), which ingeniously solves the problem of overloaded taco shells spilling everywhere.

Though kitchen wares and culinary delights are the focal point of Jerry's, the shop also stocks early American-style Mission cherrywood furniture, handbuilt in Vermont. The pieces range from a lamp table, £395, to a statuesque sideboard at £1,885. The collection is elegantly simple and functional.

Packs of three aromatic cedarwood hangers (£17.50) can be found among a huge selection of products. Impressive framed prints by Jasper Johns and Edward Hopper embody the American dream on paper and sell alongside nifty little photograph frames in leather, gold leaf and wood (from £14.95).

KAREN KAY

● *Jerry's Home Store: 163 Fulham Road, London, SW3 (0171-581 0909); The Bentall Centre, Kingston upon Thames, southwest London (0181-549 5393); The 4th Floor, Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London, SW1 (0171-245 6251). Head office (0171-225 2246).*
Open Monday to Saturday (except Bank Holidays) 10am-6pm; Sundays noon to 6pm.

● *Jerry's will mail products anywhere in the world on payment of postage and packing. For inquiries, call the Fulham Road branch. Goods are gift wrapped free of charge, except during the pre-Christmas period.*

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Terrace hse nr City & Docks. Charming rustic style, 30' x 14' semi open plan rec/kit/dng, 3 bds, orig. features: cast iron fire places, strip. flrs/drs/panelling. Exposed bricks, walled gdn.
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Delightful end of terrace Edwardian house, 2 recep (cast iron period fireplace), 22 ft kit/brkfst rm, 3 bdrms + 4 beds/study, cellar, patio, secluded SW facing gdn, no agents.
£147,950
0181 349 3236

HAMMERSMITH W6
Sunny and airy 2nd/3rd fl. mais., 3 beds, bathrm, sep. shower rm, guests cloakroom, spacious 'L' shaped loft style recep, kitchen, roof terr. Exc. cond. Located in quiet conservation area; easy parking. Lease 117 yrs. Priv sale. Full particulars available.
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Spacious 3 dble bedrm, 2 large reception rms, 1st & 2nd floor maisonette, roof garden & sole use of S/W facing garden. Attractive open fires. Good decorative order. GCH. Nr BR (15 mins Charing X). No chain. FHLD.
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Spacious Turn of Century 4 bd family home. 3 ds fr beautiful common. Enormous lived oak. kit. Pretty, well stocked gdn. Refurb. by current owner. GCH, orig. features, cellar etc. Great neighbours. Tube/bus/rail F/hold £139,950
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Grade II listed 3 bed Georgian house opposite lovely Sunne church, southfacing sunny 45ft garden, FHLD Good decorative order. Double reception, GCH, very close City/West End.
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Private 2 bedroom bungalow. Must be over 55 yrs. Residential Warden.
125 yr lease
£57,500
Tel: 01908 613033

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4 bed detached property. 2 baths, large drawing room, Siemens fitted kitchen, dining room, utility room, garages (workshop 28' x 28'), approx ½ acre. M40 junction 6 10 mins, BR station 2 mins (Marylebone). Faces & backs onto open farmland.
£245,000
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Spacious family house occupying peninsula in River Ouse. 40 mins Kings X (from St Neotts - 6 mls). 2 mls A1. 4 bds, 2 bths, 3 rec, kit, gge, orchard. Gardens front & side, rear gardens down to river. Pontoon and small boat. Beautiful river views.
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Listed 18th Century cottages, magnificently restored.
School House - 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, cloakroom, sitting room, dining/kitchen.
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Modern Bungalow, 31' Reception, Kitchen, Utility, 2 Beds, Bathroom. Shower Room. Garage. Garden.
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Listed, historic 15th century Thatched Farmhouse & Barn. Beautifully maint, orig features. 4 beds, 2 baths, lge recep with Inglenook, except lge ff kit with Aga & original oak screen, utility. S. facing gdn. 2/3 acre, p/house, orchards, breathtaking views. 4 miles city centre £180,000.
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Imposing Victorian detached family home. ½ acre of secluded gardens/ orchard. Short distance from town centre. Panoramic views over Fowey Valley. 4 beds, 3 recepts, spacious kitchen, bathroom, WC, utility rm, cellar, GCH, all mains services. Freehold £155,000.
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DETACHED beamed period cottage W Suffolk/Cambs bdrm immaculately restored with great originality, imagination & attention to detail 2 recs, 3 beds, study/bed 4, lux fitd kit, bath + 2 wc's. Lge easy to run gdn Ideal family home. w/e retreat & entertaining. For sale fully furn £136,000 (+ £8,000 contents). 0171-387 2242

EAST ANGLIA

N. SUFFOLK Near Diss Rural surroundings. 17th Century farmhse. 3 recs, 6 beds, oil ch, acre gdn/orchard, heated swim pool. All well maintained Ref 2956. £210,000. Thos Wm Gaze & Son Diss 01379 641341

NORFOLK/Suffolk borders. Grade II 4 bedroom farm house in 20 acres. Numerous outbuildings 5 converted barn letting units. Suit equestrian persons £265,000. Hamilton Smith 01379 640222.

NORTH NORFOLK Pretty brick and flint period cottage in delightful rural location near Holt & about 8 miles from the coast £66,950 Tel Walsham Holt Office 01263 711021

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A beautifully presented Victorian detached house 2 miles north of Winchester & 2 miles from M3 Junction 9, with large hall, drawing room, dining room, Country kitchen with Aga, shower room, bathroom, 3 bedrooms, parking for 2 cars, large outbuilding, front & rear gardens. Freehold £185,000.
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Rare opportunity to live secluded - in the heart of the village. Easy Cottage (semi) 2/3 beds, bath, 5sp shower, through ground floor (Sep kit & Cloak) leading to recently built garden/ dining room opening to small sun trap garden.
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01703 332260 (o)

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Quiet rural setting, ¼ acre Grade II
Approx 13 C. Easy reach of motorway network. Worcester 12 mls/Birmingham 20 mls. Entrance hall/cloakrm, utility rm, large farmhouse kitchen, 2 receps, bath/wc, 4 beds, gallery landing, shower/wc. £285,000
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HEREFORD
3 mls
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£169,950
0143 287 0384.

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HERTFORDSHIRE

RICKMANSWORTH
Prime location. 5 min fm Met line. 1890's detached 4 double beds/ 2 full bathrooms/ cloakroom/ study/ x large L reception/ conservatory/ feature kitchen/ breakfast/ utility/ garage/ BBQ patio 50 ft garden Reduced for quick sale £240,000
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(01923) 776448

ST. ALBANS
Victorian semi in Conservation area 5 min walk City Centre & station. Full GCH, 2 receps + breakfast rm, 2 dble beds+ attic/bed. Cellar Enc rear & sm front garden. £119,500
Tel: 01727 830208

HERTFORDSHIRE

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Victorian coach style family house 4 recepts, 5 beds, 2 baths set in delightful semi-walled gardens. Separate 3 bed grd flr flat 2,000 sq ft back stable block & paddocks.
For sale as a whole £650,000 freehold or £525,000 without stables & paddock.
0181 953 2423

KINGS LANGLEY
Attractive 1930's det. hse + character. 3 dbl bd, 2 rec, bthrm, fruitsalt/brkfst + 4 over gas aga, utility rm, lge plot, GCH, open fires, 99', BR Euston 25 mins. all amenities & countryside closeby, reduced for prvt sale only.
£179,000. No chain.
01923 261672

ASHWELL Award winning maltings conversion 45 Mins Kings X 2nd Lounge, views, 4 beds, master en-suite, 2 grds, OCH, gdn, stream. £195,000 ono Tel 01462 742842

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KENT

CANTERBURY, HISTORIC
1694 FAMILY TOWN HOUSE
6 beds inc master room with en suite, 2 lge barns, 2 recepts (one 32 ft one with bar dining & fireplace), cellar, office, cloakrm, cons, many original carvings & features. Charming garden/patios fountain & summerhouse.
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Tel: 01227 456292/765537(o)
Fax: 01227 470912

KENT COAST
Lge modern det house consisting of 4 dble beds 2 baths 1 ensuite, 32' lounge, Dmaroom, Study, FF lst, Cloakroom / Toilet D'stairs, Utility. Prof maintained gnds. Sunseeker. Dble integral gge Loc 15 mins from Championship Golf Courses.
£225,000
Tel 01304 362037

PLAXTOL
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£385,000 FHLD
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Gem above the jeweller's shop

A new scheme involves converting the empty office space above centrally located shops, pubs and banks into attractive flats

Visitors to Mark Florentine's second-floor flat never fail to raise an eyebrow at the view. Suspended outside one of the many windows in his octagonal lounge is a 4ft-high gold-painted naked lady, perched above the most famous clock in Newcastle upon Tyne's city centre.

Mr Florentine's apartment is one of seven in a new Living Over The Shop (LOTS) development to be officially opened on Monday, May 15 by Ian Taylor, MP for Esher, Government Sponsor Minister for Tyne and Wear and DTI Minister responsible for the North East Region.

The four floors above Northern Goldsmiths, the jeweller's in the city's Grainger Town district, empty for many years, have been converted into seven stylish flats. The property, at the junction of Clayton Street and Westgate Road, marked by the bracket clock which was added in 1932, comprises a Grade II listed building built in 1837 by Richard Grainger, and a five-storey corner building with domed tower added around 1890.

Mr Forentine, 35, an engineer, was one of seven tenants chosen from 60 applicants. Half were selected by Two Castles Housing Association, and half nominated by the council's housing department. Mr Florentine was attracted to the architecture of the area. Because he does not own a car — the tenancy agreement does not include a parking space — Mr Florentine is delighted to be so close to public transport, and he can be at work in ten minutes by bus. "Chinatown is across the road, with its supermarkets and restaurants. All the other shops are minutes away," he says. "The only thing I miss are corner shops which stay open late."

The LOTS scheme was put together by the owners, Northern Goldsmiths, and Two Castles Housing Association, with the backing of Newcastle City Council, which was funded by the Department of the Environment's national LOTS scheme. Of the £375,000 total cost, almost £200,000 was met by a DoE grant, £100,000 from the Conservation Area Partnership and the rest from the housing association.

A spokesman for the Goldsmiths Group plc, whose jeweller's shop downstairs opened in 1928, says: "We entered into the agreement with the housing association to restore a prominent building and to return the upper floors to beneficial use. They have been deteriorating and, because of the economic climate and poor return on commercial rents, the costs of refurbishment could not be supported."

The LOTS mechanism involves a two-stage leasing arrangement: a commercial lease between the property owner and an intermediary, such as a housing association, and assured shorthold tenancy agreements between the housing association and the ultimate tenants.

At Goldsmiths, the owners granted a 15-year £1 peppercorn lease to the housing association and the flats are let at £60 per week. Newcastle City Council has identified the historic Grainger Town area of the city centre as appropriate for regeneration and refurbishment.

After a study revealed 1.7 million square feet of empty office space in the city centre, which could create 7,000 flats, the council was awarded grants of £1.5 million over three years for LOTS schemes in Grainger Town. The council has compiled a list of around 15 buildings suitable for schemes ranging from three to 20 flats.

Newcastle City Council sought the advice of Ann Petherick, the project director of Living Over The Shop, who has recently been appointed as a consultant to the cities of Leeds and Cardiff to identify LOTS developments. A former transport planner, Ms Petherick says: "My job involves bringing together two groups which rarely work together — commercial property and social housing. The fundamental difficulty is in convincing property owners that their interests will not be jeopardised by entering into a LOTS scheme."

Since 1990, more than £45 million of public funding from the DoE, Housing Corporation and local authorities has been made available to LOTS schemes.

Wendy Prahms, a mature student who has moved into the Northern Goldsmiths development from out of town, is delighted with her flat, which contains original Georgian windows, high ceilings, attractive coving and original fireplaces. "I like the idea of reclaiming old buildings for residential use," she says.

Although the scheme refers to living over "shops", it works equally well with banks, pubs and other commercial premises.

Richard Gration, the estates surveyor for the northern region of NatWest Property Management, says that the two storeys above their Morley branch near Leeds had been "dilapidated, redundant space" only partly used for paper storage. In conjunction with the Yorkshire Metropolitan Housing Association this space was converted into five flats in a LOTS scheme completed in 1993.

NatWest has agreed LOTS schemes around the country including Brixham, Leicester, Halifax, Fleetwood and Hartlepool. "We are interested in making good use of all the vacant space we have as a bank," Mr Gration says. "A LOTS scheme involves an improvement in the property, which is often in an internally poor condition at the start. It generates a rental income and an increase in the capital value at the end of the lease." The bank regards carefully vetted tenants as a positive contribution to security. "It also provides us with a chance to give something to the community and contribute in a small way to stimulating the town's local economy," he says.

LYNNE GREENWOOD

● *Living Over The Shop, University of York, The King's Manor, York YO1 2EP (01904 433972). Living Over The Shop Handbook for Practitioners from LOTS, £16, address as above, including postage and packing.*

MIKE SCOTT



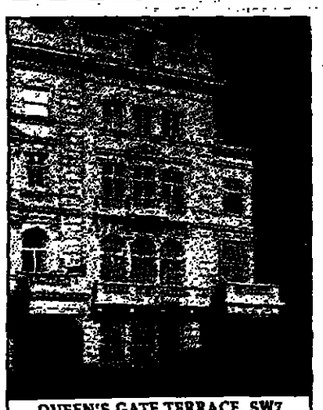
Mark Florentine's new flat looks over Newcastle's city centre



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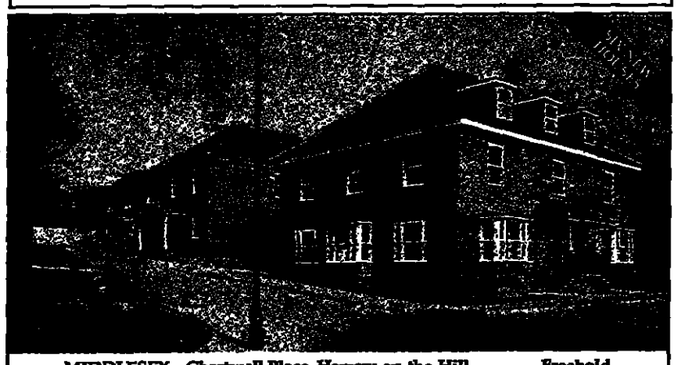


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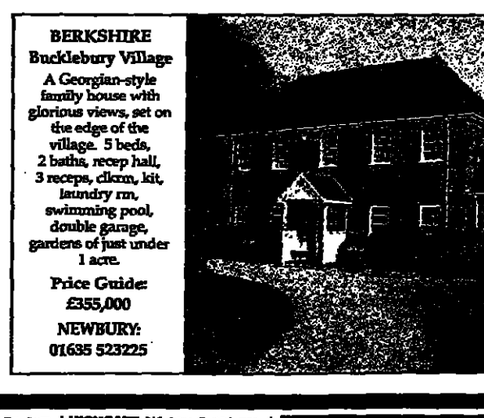
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Science needs a life (or two) of its own

Britons, with an insatiable appetite for details of the lives of the great, excel at biography, but scientific heroes have been strangely neglected

This week the AT&T Award, Britain's biggest non-fiction prize, went to a rank outsider. Mark Hudson's *Coming Back Brockens* (Cape, £16.99), a highly personal portrait of a Durham mining village, outpointed such heavyweights as Nelson Mandela's autobiography, Juliet Barker's *The Brontës* and Humphrey Burton's authorised life of Leonard Bernstein. Hudson came to the Savoy; saw Alan Clark, chairman of the judges, praise his book above all for the quality of its prose; and, having conquered, left £25,000 richer.

Everyone is pleased to see such a prize go to a writer who not only deserves it but also needs the money and the kudos. But the judges of literary prizes are not allowed to take authors' circumstances into account. More significantly, there was general approval among the guests of the fact that, for once, the prize had not gone to an example of the genres which have dominated the non-fiction scene for so long: biography and autobiography.

There are sound reasons why biography is so popular with the British. As a nation, we have an inexhaustible curiosity about the lives of the great, the good and especially the bad. This curiosity expresses itself in forms which are only in the most literal sense literary (e.g. tabloid journalism), but also in works which, from an astonishingly early date, consciously seek to transmute that eager inquisitiveness into great literature: Aubrey's *Brief Lives*, for example, or Boswell's *Life of Samuel Johnson*. We excel at biography, particularly literary biography, and not only in the Anglophone sphere: the best lives of Goethe, Ibsen, Rousseau, Balzac, Stendhal and Mazzini (to name a handful) are all by Britons.

Above all, the British read biography because they have no qualms about hero-worship: our last dictator was Cromwell, and even he has never lacked admiring biographers. The present taste for biographies that debunk the great is itself parasitical on an unspoken presumption that human greatness is a meaningful category.

Is there a limit to the number of biographies in quick succession that any given subject can sustain? Publishers used to claim that the hundredth life of Napoleon will always sell better than the first life of any neglected figure; but the laws of supply and demand still apply. Oddly enough, Napoleon has himself been neglected. When Artemis Cooper recently told me that she had embarked on a book about him, I raised an eyebrow; but she pointed out that the last full-length biography in English had been by Vincent Cronin, a quarter of a century ago.



DANIEL JOHNSON

A generation is probably the right sort of gap between major biographies. But the blight of the anniversary sends publishers into overdrive. The last important study of Purcell until the tercentenary was J. A. Westrup's in 1937; so far this year, I have already seen at least five new books on the composer, with two major biographies (by Jonathan Keates and Richard Luckett) still to come. Two Anna Akhmatovas in the past two years, another Cyril Connolly is in the pipeline to add to Clive Fisher's recent one, and several books on Graham Greene appeared almost simultaneously last year; not to mention Trollope or the Brontës.

One area has been conspicuously neglected by the best British biographers. Now that even minor novelists, poets and dramatists have mostly been done, it will be necessary for the publishing focus to shift towards science. For the logic of scientific discovery, the dialectic of conjecture and refutation, of rival paradigms, is eminently dramatic; yet while Stephen Hawking inspires hordes of scientific popularisers, there are comparatively few distinguished scientific biographers.

This could already be changing, however. On my desk I have three bulky volumes which exemplify several different possible approaches to scientific biography — not all equally valid.

Voyaging, the first volume of Janet Browne's *Charles Darwin* (Cape, £25), looks formidable, even daunting, but is in fact an admirably lucid biography by a professional Darwinian scholar. *The Moral Animal: Why We Are The Way We Are* by the American journalist Robert Wright (Little, Brown, £20) is also largely about Darwin, but examines him as a case study in "the new science of evolutionary psychology". Browne treats the study of Darwin as an end in himself, while Wright treats his life as a means to understanding our own, concluding that Darwin, like us, was at bottom "an animal".

The Australian historian Stephen Gaukroger's *Descartes: an intellectual biography* (Clarendon Press, Oxford, £25) tackles a no less seminal (and colourful) figure, and exemplifies the academic approach. The difference between Browne's Darwin and Gaukroger's Descartes is that Cartesian physics, though two centuries older than Darwinian zoology, was already more abstract and is consequently harder for the layman.

This is a pity, for Gaukroger writes well and his important book will certainly excite all students of 17th-century thought. But there remains room for a more accessible life.

It will be illuminating to compare this work with Noel Malcolm's forthcoming biography of Descartes's contemporary, Thomas Hobbes. Though Malcolm's book will doubtless be no less scholarly, my guess is that his journalistic experience will help him to evoke rather more vividly the quarrelsome world in which Descartes could call Hobbes "extremely contemptible" one moment, yet be reconciled with him the next.

How like our own academic scene; but, alas, how unlike it in the ferment of big ideas.

Horse sense

■ THE MAZE: Through Hell to Hopi
By Lucy Rees
Bantam Press, £12.99

THERE are lots of ways to die in the desert. Or at least, as Lucy Rees's account of her horseback journey across northern Arizona attests, to become horribly uncomfortable. Some three quarters of this terrain is either desert, national forest or barren, sparsely populated Indian reservation: Navajo, Apache, Hopi. Should anything go wrong, there is nobody much to help you.

But, even in its sparseness, the landscape she traverses is vast and beautiful: "the rock is soft and young, blooming with the colour and freshness of a ripe peach". And what is more, the soul is at home here, at least for those who travel, to borrow an ancient Hopi phrase, with the tops of their heads open.

Rees and her partner, Rick, are clearly just such travellers. As the title of the book suggests, the physical journey which they undertake soon becomes a metaphor for a progress of a much more inward nature. Rees writes ravishingly of man's relationship with the natural world, and in this particular wilderness its cleansing and healing powers are quick to take effect. As they journey further into the labyrinth, successive layers in their own relationship unfurl, gradually revealing beneath them, on a deeper level still, a story of loss and grief and final reconciliation.

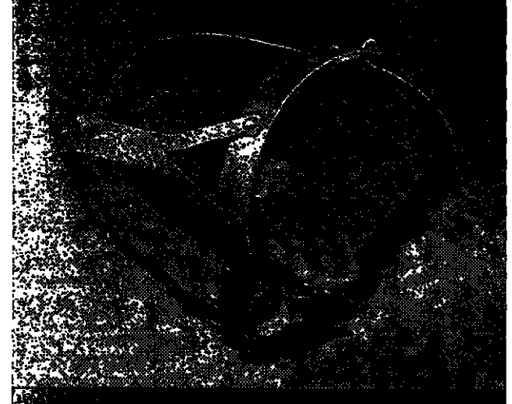
Rees's talents as a writer are literate rather than literary, and, in a physical sense, not much actually happens on the journey itself. But the mark of a good travel book is that it should be more than the sum of its parts. On one level *The Maze* is a travel book for horse lovers; but it is also, marvellously, a book about contemplation and the ability of some travellers to connect truly with the land.

KATIE HICKMAN

MINETTE WALTERS

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THE TIMES

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PAN

PAUL HARRISON



Made by the hand of the gods: the ruins at Machupicchu in Peru — do they provide evidence of a Golden Age of knowledge now long forgotten?

The moving finger writes

. . . and having writ, leaves us to puzzle over the remains of an age of gods and giants

GRAHAM Hancock believes in a Golden Age, a "First Time", when there were giants if not gods. The evidence is there for all to see — the New World sites at Machupicchu and Tiahuanaco in Bolivia, the Mayan Pyramids of the Sun and Moon in Mexico — most dramatically the pyramids of Giza.

Fast and furious come the questions: why, why again, above all how? Not content with a tidy "linear" view of history that has man emerging in stately wise, first learning about fire and then the wheel until we ourselves step gloriously upon the stage, he warns that we neglect pre-history at our peril. And if there are no books — or we have destroyed them on our way — read the signs, the fingerprints they left behind: the mysterious Nazca line drawings in Peru, only discovered this century once man had invented the airplane; the map of Antarctica penned by Admiral Piri Reis in the 16th century whose accurate details of the continent beneath the ice had to await confirmation of seismic survey until 1949; the consummate skill with which the Great Pyramid was laid down, perfectly north-south, its dimensions comprising both π and a sure knowledge of the precession of the equinoxes (well before modern man admitted to knowing either).

■ FINGERPRINTS OF THE GODS
By Graham Hancock
Heinemann, £16.99

All in all, there is evidence aplenty: and Hancock is not workshy in gathering it in until his pages seem fit to burst with facts. He takes us to the New World, to Peru, the remote Andes, to Mexico blighted by the oilmen. He is a good guide and an excellent expositor: no better man to lead you through the mysteries of Osiris numbers, detail the precise statistics of each pyramid or retell the creation myths of ancient Egypt. (The book is equally well served by photographs and line drawings.) Slowly the picture builds. The ancients knew as much as we do, possibly more: and still they seem to say something.

We come to Giza: the pace quickens. These stones piled up as pyramids are older than anyone admits: they were never tombs in the Egyptian sense, for they were ever empty. (And what of these ocean-going ships, conveniently at anchor in the desert?) A footprint 13 acres square weighing 50 million tons and here another and again: examine their message, see their configuration. In truth, they make a replica of Orion's belt dropped into the sand at a particular moment in time. When? 10,450BC: we can establish that by precession (turn back to page 233).

And the message in the sand? That would be telling; let's say a large number of readers are already finding it out. They will hugely enjoy their quest in 500 pages of inspired storytelling.

JOHN SKINNER

Devil of a good fight

■ STRANGE HIGHWAYS
By Dean Koontz
Headline, £16.99

COAL Valley, Pennsylvania, the setting of *Strange Highways*, is a condemned village which sits astride a voracious mine fire. Explosions rumble, flames spurt through vents to the earth's surface and, any minute, the entire place is due to subside into the inferno beneath. It is a Satanist's idea of heaven, and there just happens to be one on the rampage.

In 1975, Joey Shannon, off to college in his Mustang, paused at a fork in a country road. For reasons he cannot recall, he chose not to take the road through Coal Valley, but drove on, and 20 years of drunken, loveless failure and misery were the result. In 1995, plagued by hallucinations of a female corpse, he finds himself back at the same place, being offered the same choice and the chance to live his life again.

It is *Groundhog Day* meets *Twin Peaks*: suddenly Joey is back in his old Mustang in Coal Valley. There is a pair of blue eyes in a jam-jar in the dashboard, a helpmeet called Celeste bearing stigmata at the road side, and they are off in the fight against evil. Evil loses.

Strange Highways is just a short novel, and 12 other tales are included here. They all display the Koontz trademark: a combination of wild (if sometimes borrowed) imaginings with staunch belief. A mugger is swallowed whole by a stolen handbag; ectoplasm invading the minds of a town's people is overcome by the strong, pure thoughts of a schoolteacher. In, frankly, one of his poorer efforts, a marauding black pumpkin devours a family but spares the abused son. His characters are taken to the brink of the abyss, but always come back, spouting family values.

These are born-again books. Koontz has adapted the genre for Newt Gingrich's America: horror, yes, but *happy* horror.

GILL HORNBY

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

First steps to my own shelf

THE stage of emerging from the school reading scheme into the world of what my five-year-old calls "shelf books" — to distinguish them from the ones in his school bag — is when a child can be teetering between enthusiasm and frustration. They should not be fobbed off with drab prose, but the vocabulary must match ability.

Among the clutch of small storybook series aimed at this stage are some good ideas, though few as inspired as Dr Seuss's timeless *Cat in the Hat* books, and none cheap enough for a child to buy with pocket money.

Gollancz is bringing out five new titles (£3.99 each) in the **Share-a-story** series by Pat Thomson. Each book is a dialogue between an adult and a child. The adult's words are on one page, the child's on the facing page, so that you take it in turns to read and create a conversation. Thomson finds ingenious variations on the theme and has top illustrators. But she and artist Faith Jacques should have done their sums before giving a present-day granny, aged about 60, a grey bun, knitting needles and an Edwardian childhood.

Think about it, as **Francis Fry, Private Eye** would say. They are pricey at £7.99 each and £3.99 in paperback.

There are some excellent stories by quality authors lurking among the **Banana Books** from Heinemann (£3.99 each). I confess to a lump in my throat at Bel Mooney's shamelessly Dickensian story, **The Mouse with Many Rooms**, about a mouse whose flight from a cat turns a houseful of lonely bedsit dwellers into a big happy family at Christmas.

Piccadilly Pips, which are the same price and reading level, also use good writers. This spring brings Jacqueline Wilson's **Jimmy Jelly** and Robert Swindell's **The Muckitups**, in which the tidy, healthy, Hebridean Frimlys clash then mix with the junk-strewing, chain-smoking, telly-watching Muckitups.

The perfect antidote to early-reader books must be **The Magic Fountain by HRH Princess Gloriana — the Story behind the Book** by Roger McGough (Bodley Head, £8.99), an outrageously seditious tale of a celebrity author princess whose 34 word blockbuster may have been short on talent but at least netted a prince. I hope McGough's lawyers are standing by.

SARAH JOHNSON

The Times/Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	THE SEVENTH SCROLL **Wilbur Smith** *(Macmillan)*	£15.99	1	4
2	OUR GAME **John le Carré** *(Hodder & Stoughton)*	£16.99	0	1
3	FINGERPRINTS OF THE GODS **Graham Hancock** *(Heinemann)*	£16.99	2	4
4	THE LAST HUMAN **Grant Haylor** *(Viking)*	£14.99	0	1
5	TAKE IT LIKE A MAN **Boy George** *(Sidgwick & Jackson)*	£14.99	0	1
6	SOPHIE'S WORLD **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£16.99	3	14
7	AS IT SEEMED TO ME **John Cole** *(Weidenfeld)*	£20	7	2
8	THE BEST OF FRIENDS **Joanna Trollope** *(Bloomsbury)*	£14.99	6	6
9	THE OXFORD BOOK OF HUMOROUS QUOTATIONS **ed. Ned Sherrin** *(O.U.P.)*	£16.99	0	1
10	HIGH FIDELITY **Nick Hornby** *(Gollancz)*	£14.99	4	5

PAPERBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	THE CHAMBER **John Grisham** *(Arrow)*	£5.99	1	5
2	ORIGINAL SIN **P. D. James** *(Faber)*	£8.99	5	3
3	SOUL MUSIC **Terry Pratchett** *(Corgi)*	£4.99	0	1
4	A BRIEF HISTORY OF TIME **Stephen Hawking** *(Bantam)*	£6.99	2	5
5	LETTERS FROM LONDON 1990-1995 **Julian Barnes** *(Picador)*	£6.99	8	3
6	SHADOW OF A DARK QUEEN **Raymond Feist** *(HarperCollins)*	£4.99	17	2
7	TOM CLANCY'S OP CENTRE **Tom Clancy** *(HarperCollins)*	£4.99	4	5
8	EVERVILLE **Clive Barker** *(HarperCollins)*	£5.99	6	2
9	THE X FILES **Charles Grant** *(HarperCollins)*	£4.99	3	3
10	ACID HOUSE **Irvine Welsh** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	9	2
11	THE HIPPOPOTAMUS **Stephen Fry** *(Arrow)*	£5.99	10	8
12	DIAMOND MASK **J. May** *(Pan Macmillan)*	£4.99	0	1
13	NOTHING LASTS FOR EVER **Sidney Sheldon** *(HarperCollins)*	£4.99	12	5
14	PLAYFAIR CRICKET ANNUAL 1995 **Bill Frindall** *(Headline)*	£4.50	7	3
15	FOLDING STAR **Alan Hollinghurst** *(Vintage)*	£5.99	11	3
16	MISS SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW **Peter Høeg** *(Flamingo)*	£5.99	13	26
17	A CHANGE OF CLIMATE **Hilary Mantel** *(Penguin)*	£5.99	0	6
18	KOLYMSKY HEIGHTS **Lionel Davidson** *(Mandarin)*	£4.99	15	5
19	THE FIST OF GOD **Frederick Forsyth** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	18	13
20	MARABOU STORK NIGHTMARES **Irvine Welsh** *(Random House)*	£9.99	19	2

Any book from this list can be ordered from
Dillons Direct Tel: 0345 125 704 (local rate) The Bookstore To Your Door

هكذا من الأصل

NEW IN PAPERBACK



Janet Cohen: putting her wide experience to use

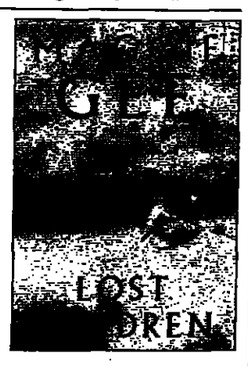
■ CHILDREN OF A HARSH WINTER
By Janet Cohen
Penguin, £5.99

"CHILDREN of a harsh winter grow up strong": that Russian proverb becomes the underlying thesis of this book. Cohen traces the interlinked lives of three characters, each abandoned, betrayed or abused in childhood. Jennifer Redwood, sexually molested as a teenager, grows up to become the proprietress of a fashionable restaurant chain. David Banner, attractive and arrogant, finds himself struggling against looming penury after his parents' separation. He goes on to a political career. Paul Seles, an orphaned Hungarian immigrant, severely battered by the man who adopts him, later grows rich as an international arms dealer. Yet despite the veneers of success, the scars of childhood lie just beneath the surface, threatening at all times to reopen and destroy all that has been gained.

Cohen, a director of the merchant bank Charterhouse, a governor of the BBC, a founder of Café Pelican, and heavily involved in educational issues, brings her wide experience to bear on this novel. Yet the result is middle-brow pulp fiction. It is the strong narrative line, rather than any genuine insight, which carries the reader forward. Perhaps Cohen should return to crime stories, where a carefully crafted plot and intelligent solutions are exactly the strengths required.

■ LOST CHILDREN
By Maggie Gee
Flamingo, £5

HAVING devoted the past 20 years to her husband, her son and her adored 16-year-old daughter, Alma has reached 50 without giving much thought to who she is and why. Then Zoë, the golden child, runs away from her comfortable, suburban home and disappears onto the streets of London. Devastated, Alma rejects her uncomprehending husband and son, takes a mindless job that will leave her time to think, and starts digging in the past for clues to her own nature and why her daughter had to escape. A compelling exploration of the ways well-meaning parents damage their children.



■ RETREAT FROM LOVE
By Colette
Peter Owen, £11.75

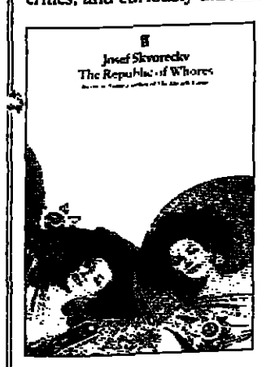
WITH languid abandonment Colette describes the sexual games played by three aristocrats as summer washes over them in an isolated farmhouse. Their manners are exquisite, yet beneath the veneer of charm and civility corruption seethes. Encouraged by her friend Annie's stories of her promiscuous past, Claudine schemes to pair Annie with her gay stepson. But when death taints this pastoral idyll, Claudine is compelled to re-evaluate her behaviour. First published in French in 1907, this English translation, which admirably captures the eroticism of the prose, only appeared in 1974.

■ HENRY J. WOOD
By Arthur Jacobs
Methuen, £12.99

AS THIS meticulous biography makes clear, Sir Henry Wood's influence on British musical life goes far beyond the Promenade Concerts which bear his name and which celebrate their centenary this year. A champion of new music, between 1889 and 1944 Wood conducted the British premières of some 716 works by 356 composers, among them Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* and four symphonies by Mahler. In the process, he did more than anyone to raise orchestral playing to the levels of virtuosity that we take for granted now.

■ JOHN STEINBECK, A Biography
By Jay Parini *Minerva, £6.99*

A NOVELIST himself, Parini approaches Steinbeck's life with a real understanding of the obsessive determination required of a great writer. The resulting book is learned, sympathetic and highly readable. Steinbeck's experiences among the fruit farms and coastal canneries of his beloved California are compared with the plots and characters of his novels to show how his best writing reflects his own life. Steinbeck emerges as a dedicated, tormented, compassionate and yet somewhat innocent man, easily wounded by his critics, and curiously unsatisfied with his work.



■ THE REPUBLIC OF WHORES
By Josef Skvorecky
Faber, £6.99

THIS Cold War satire from a Czech author appears in English 30 years after the Russians first squashed its publication at home. Leaning heavily on Jaroslav Hasek's masterpiece, *The Good Soldier Schweik*, it tells the picaresque tale of Danny Smiricky's final weeks as a conscript in the Seventh Tank Battalion. The narrative takes the form of a series of loosely linked stories which turn on frustrated sexual desire, and the passive resistance of Czech soldiers to their Communist overlords. The humour is still poignant today, but the political message comes, for us, a little late.



■ THE STORM-BRINGER
By Paul Sayer
Sceptre, £5.99

A COUPLE move from a small Moorland village to live in York. It soon becomes clear that they have a secret, something they are trying to forget. The husband in particular is anxious and abstracted. They decide to take a lodger — a crude-seeming young man whose raw energy disturbs the depressive pattern of their lives, forcing them eventually to face the terrible memory they have been avoiding. A disturbing story of grief and denial, built gradually through dour but telling details. Sayer's writing has a kind of baldness which makes it uncomfortable to read, but also a determined honesty which is compelling.

● *Contributors: Rachel Campbell-Johnston, Nicki Household, Jason Cowley, Ian Brunskill, Alexander Ross, Giles Coren, Hazel Leslie*

Penny Perrick on a witty tale of adulterous love with overtones of Fay Weldon

Lock up your men

IMPERFECT love would have been a more apt title for this sour, thoughtful novel, since every bond of affection that exists between its characters is marred and clouded. Even a rather appealing baby cannot count on unconditional mother love. "Frankly, Edward leaves me very unbonded and I feel exhausted," his mother unabashedly admits, wheedling the nanny to put in some extra hours.

The protagonist is Pru Valour, a subtly beautiful forty-something, married to an older man, Max, whose first wife, now dead, had been faceless and destructive. Max, aching for a quiet family life, has imprisoned Pru in the prickliest of gilded cages: a country house near Winchester, where she can look after him and their daughter, Jane, arrange flowers in church and do a bit of inoffensive part-time work: she puts in few afternoons a week in a bookshop.

She is researching a biography of Joan of Arc, although she has made no effort to find a publisher for it.

Pru is far from unhappy, even though Max is grumpy and exacting and has a tendency to go off and ominously polish his guns when crossed. But then Violet, Max's daughter by his first marriage,

■ PERFECT LOVE
By Elizabeth Buchan
Macmillan, £14.99

comes back to England with a husband, Jamie, and the aforementioned baby, and Pru's life of droopy domesticity is considerably livened up.

Jamie falls in love with her and after squirming a bit Pru takes to meeting him for adulterous afternoons in a London hotel. Even worse, she signs off the flower rota.

These lovers deserve some sympathy: Pru *has* been systematically crushed by a loving but overbearing husband; Jamie *is*, when not indulging in lunchtime liaisons, doing his best to be a New Man, changing nappies and so on.

Yet, after a while, Pru's mousy anguishing starts to annoy and one's sympathies shoot off towards the thoroughly undeserving Violet, a woman who was determined to have it all and has now realised, horribly, that a baby was the part that she did not really need.

Violet is as recognisable as any of the similarly harassed heroines of Fay Weldon's early novels — desperately trying to juggle love and work while walking around in a daze of tiredness. Also rather appealingly Weldonesque is the pushy authorial voice, explaining the characters' actions.

The moral of this witty and convincing story may not be quite what the author intended but is clear, nonetheless: beware the careerless woman, for she alone has enough time on her hands to borrow your husband.



Buchan: unintended moral

Forged in a fire of race

Tunku Varadarajan asks why racial conflict begets great writing

SOCIETIES with a history of racial or communal conflict invariably produce fine storytellers and compelling literature: America is an example. So is modern India. Yet no place has had such an acrid history of racial division, nor such consistently self-assured writers, as South Africa.

Paton, Gordimer, J. M. Coetzee, Breytenbach and Brink are all on our shelves. But there are other, younger voices now, which clamour to be heard. Mark Behr is one, and *The Smell of Apples*, his first novel, is as deftly-spun as it is disconcerting.

His limpid tale is set in two distinct periods of South African history — 1973 and 1988 — and describes the life of Marnus, the son of an Afrikaner general. Apartheid is nowhere mentioned by name in the text, but it is present on almost every page. Behr's characters tell us how it quickened, deadened or shaped the lives and instincts of all South Africans.

Take the case of Little-Neville, the son of the family's Coloured maid, and just a year younger than Marnus. He is caught stealing coal from a railway yard and is burnt in front of an open furnace by the men who caught him. "Were they really whites, mum?" Marnus asks, in disbelief as much as in pain. "But why did whites do it?"

■ THE SMELL OF APPLES
By Mark Behr
Abacus, £8.99

■ CHEAP LIVES
By Antony Sher
Little, Brown, £15.99

Marnus does not find an answer. When he is old enough to know, he is consumed by the war in Angola, whose sordid conduct is in contrast with the lilt of his childhood.

There is no lilt in the lives of Adrian and Yusuf, the two men whose letters to each other comprise the text of Antony Sher's *Cheap Lives*. In this forceful and inventive book, Sher conducts a scalpel-sharp inquiry into the nature of fantasy, amorality and revenge.

Adrian, a pretty, white tour guide, strikes up a correspondence with the imprisoned Yusuf, a brutal and simian Coloured serial murderer, who had tried to kill him after a drug-fuelled sexual encounter in a hotel. Why did Yusuf do it? Why did he kill 50 others? Did he really kill them? And what is the true motive behind Adrian's letter-writing?

Sher pulls his readers, inextricably, into a vortex of raw questions. And his tortured Adrian, like Behr's Marnus, struggles always to find coherent answers.



Physical graffiti: from *The Lady is a Tramp — Portraits of Catherine Bailey* by David Bailey and Fay Weldon (Thames & Hudson, £39.95), "woman in her infinite variety"

A Sharpe blade for El Castrador

WITH a new series of Sharpe's exploits in the Napoleonic Wars roaring across our television screens in a flurry of blood, sweat and heaving bosoms, it is prime time for a new novel.

It is no surprise, therefore, that Bernard Cornwell has produced *Sharpe's Battle* and dedicated it to Sean Bean, who has done for his hero what Sir Alec Guinness did for John le Carré's George Smiley. Bean has brought risen-through-the-ranks lad Dick Sharpe so successfully to life that I imagine Cornwell himself is tempted to imagine him speaking the lines as he writes them.

In his latest escapade, Sharpe's skirmishers are still on the loose fringes of Wellington's war in Spain,

■ SHARPE'S BATTLE
By Bernard Cornwell
HarperCollins, £14.99

with the unconventional captain's reputation for having captured an enemy standard (see *Sharpe's Eagle*) now gone before him. As a somewhat double-edged tribute to his toughness and skill as an officer, Sharpe is handed control of the Real Compania Irlandesa, an overdressed, undertrained regiment of Irish exiles attached to the Spanish royal court.

This is fertile ground for Cornwell to play upon the difficult historical relationship between England and Ireland, though I fear the analysis that slips through between the lines tends towards the simplistic. But *Sharpe's Battle* is really a tale of the bitter feud that evolves between our hero and a French brigadier by the name of Loup, whose men suitably affect wolf-grey battle dress and military mores reminiscent of the animal itself.

This is about the nasty side of war, about the conflict that gave the world the word "guerrilla" for the "little war" fought by irregulars that would challenge the whole nature of traditional set-piece clashes between professionals. In this birth of modern warfare, rape, pillage, hostage-taking and revenge murders of civilians join the arsenal of weaponry. The terror of the French is a Spanish peasant *guerrillero* known for reasons too painfully obvious as El Castrador. In an escalating balance of terror, Loup imitates his trade-mark mutilation and even Sharpe is provoked to risk his career by violating the rules of war.

What makes these books such a successful formula is the blend of action, well-researched historical setting, colourful characterisation and a juicy sub-plot. In this case the scarlet lady is a cross-dressing treasonous Spanish aristocrat with a dash of Lola Montez and a penchant for collecting a uniform from each of her lovers. Will she add one of Sharpe's greenjackets to her wardrobe? Could I betray a secret like that?

PETER MILLAR

The lost boys on a midnight odyssey

■ WONDER BOYS
By Michael Chabon
Fourth Estate, £15.99

■ TIM AND PETE
By James Robert Baker
Ringpull Press, £8.98

NOT another novel, you might be forgiven for thinking, about writers and writing. Not another tale of late nights and substance abuse and wasted lives as one more narrator toils at the Typewriter of Doom, condemned to his novel, condemned to tell us about it in another.

But you would be wrong. Michael Chabon's *Wonder Boys* is a funny, ironic novel about those afflicted with the "midnight disease" of writing, about the drive to compose which goes beyond envy or good sense, about Marilyn Monroe's jacket and the corpse of a mad, blind dog called Doctor Dee.

Grady Tripp is in a mess. His novels used to get the kind of great press that Chabon's *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh* got when it appeared in 1988. But that was seven years ago: and Grady's new novel, the eponymous *Wonder Boys*, is 2,611 pages long and nowhere near finished. His wife is about to leave him and his teaching career is up the creek. What is worse, Terry Crabtree, his "Agent of Chaos", is coming to Pittsburgh, expecting to see a final draft.

The dog belonged to his girlfriend and the jacket to her husband, and they are only two of the engines that power this big novel along at its galloping pace; others include a steady supply of marijuana and the gothic tales of the almost mythical August van Zorn. But behind all this is Grady's narrative voice, shambling and endearing, a hopeless man who finds hope at last. Ultimately, its postmodern narrative convolutions take a back seat to the calamitous adventures of Grady, Crabtree and James Leer, Grady's talented if peculiar pupil. But the novel's quiet, moving resolution is proof that Chabon is more than an entertaining trickster.

Tim and Pete, James Robert Baker's fourth novel, pelts headlong through the landscape of urban America. But Baker sets us down in riot-devastated Los Angeles, where midnight adventures can take a deadly turn. *Tim and Pete* is a love story and a comedy, but it is dark at the edges, and fuelled by a vision of a new political order.

Tim's problem is simple enough: he is stranded in Laguna Beach one night and needs to get home. He figures he might get a lift from his ex, Pete — but things are not so simple. Their midnight ride is an hilarious catalogue of misadventure that finally puts them at the mercy of a gay anarchist group with the firepower to blow the New Right off the map.

Baker's style is breezy and flip, but what is remarkable about his writing is that, threaded effortlessly through the speculations on the Hardy Boys' sex life, is a very serious novel indeed. It is a howl of rage in a world where everyone has a friend or a lover who has died. But love survives against the most terrible odds: and that is no mean achievement.

ERICA WAGNER

Now you can have the River Café in your own kitchen

Italian on the tongue

■ THE RIVER CAFE COOK BOOK
By Rose Gray and Ruth Rogers
Ebury Press, £25

THIS is a seminal book from a seminal restaurant. Rose Gray and Ruth Rogers have changed the way we eat. Before they came on to the scene in 1987, smart food was French and anything Italian was found in greasy spoons masquerading as jolly trats, with waiters winkingly wielding oversized pepperpots and (tinned) *pomodori* with everything. The River Café changed that entirely. Rogers and Gray came up with a menu that was fresh, simple and bristling with flavour and robust authenticity.

The River Café, which in a manner of speaking had started out life as a works canteen for Richard Rogers Associates, became *the* most imitated restaurant. And so, filtered through the medium of lifestyle sections and colour supplements, the age of balsamic vinegar and *bruschetta* was born. Before, few people had heard of *polenta*: now you can get it at Sainsbury's.

Chefs' books, though lucrative, rarely succeed in the domestic kitchen. Marco Pierre White provocatively prefaced his first book with the words: "You're buying this book because you want to cook well? Because you want to cook Michelin stars? Forget it. Save your money. Go and buy a saucepan." This book, however, is worth any number of kitchen gadgets, with recipes as simple as they are inspirational — and they work.

The food in the restaurant relies upon the best, freshest ingredients, often flown in — daily, if necessary — from Italy. You need to be unstinting with your shopping, but then you can cook, from this book, with ease. It is just a delight, beautiful to look at, glorious to read. Spaghetti *al limone* (most lemons are sold underripe here, so you may have to use fewer than directed) is fast, delectable, fragrant. You can romp through a recipe for summer minestrone so unfussy it is positively relaxing to cook. Likewise the chocolate truffle cake (melted chocolate, whipped cream: just those two ingredients), which is an effortless, astonishing triumph.

I could cook my way through this book for ever and not get bored. Every recipe is seductively do-able. This is more than just Italian without tears: it is the must-have manual for a stress-free, chic and successful life in the kitchen.

NIGELLA LAWSON



Gray and Rogers: changed our taste-buds for ever

Prairie myths

IF these two novels share anything apart from both being set in an America of the past, it is their preoccupation with America's mythic qualities. There is a common interest in landscape and in the response of character to inhabiting this enormous space.

The Last Ride is an 1880s Western. When a haggard old Indian dismounts at the Baldwins' homestead, Old West hospitality dictates that Brake Baldwin invite him to stay, but Brake's wife Maggie is disturbed by the visitor. For a start, he is not Indian at all, but Maggie's father, Samuel Jones, who ran off with a squaw. Maggie cannot accept him back without rancour, but when Brake is injured in an Indian attack and their daughter is abducted, there is only one way forward — Maggie and Jones ride together again.

But there is no tension: you know how the book is going to end before you are a third of the way through, although there is some insightful probing of the idea of family and effective emotional dynamics. Thomas Eidson is good at evoking sympathy even for the most stubborn characters.

■ THE LAST RIDE
By Thomas Eidson
Michael Joseph, £12.99

■ THE BOTTICELLI ANGEL
By Harry Cauley
Michael Joseph, £12.99

Harry Cauley, on the other hand, rarely engages the emotions in *The Botticelli Angel*. John, the narrator, calls at an isolated house after his car breaks down. The owner believes John to be an angel who has come to take Michael, her son, also an angel — he has the vestigial wings to prove it — away to heaven. John sees Michael as his passport to paradise; all he has to do is get him across America to Hollywood. Easier said than done back in the 1920s, when America was a lot bigger.

However, in terms of expanding the great myth of America, Eidson and Cauley can only be the warm-up guys for Steve Ericson (*Arc d'X*) and Cris Mazza (*Revelation Countdown*). Go for the Eidson, pass on the Cauley.

NICHOLAS ROYLE

TIMES BOOKS
THURSDAY
Lord Skidelsky on a Tory manifesto by John Patten; Colin Welch on Richard Neville and *Oz*; Anne Tyler's *Ladder of Years*; plus David Ekserdjian on Renaissance man: Vasari

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Twenty-five years on, a founder of the Fan Circle is preparing to celebrate these relics of high society

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Helene Alexander opens a European feather fan with mother-of-pearl sticks, c. 1910

When there was a fan for all seasons

Two terraced houses in Greenwich, south London — even two handsome, 18th-century ones — may not seem an obvious setting for a collection of international glamour. But behind the reticent doors of the Fan Museum are rooms full of surprises, where delicate treasures of ivory, silk, tortoiseshell and paper are spread out like brilliant butterflies. These fragile relics of long-lost high society have been collected by Helene Alexander, the museum's founder, whose career has more than a touch of romance itself.

Some of her earliest memories are of her grandmother's social life in 1950s Egypt: "She had been a lady-in-waiting at the Egyptian court of King Farouk and ordered all her clothes from Paris," Mrs Alexander says. "She had fans made for her to match her costumes and would sometimes buy antique fans as well." The inheritance of some 20 fans from her grandmother's collection encouraged an interest in the subject which Mrs Alexander began to develop while she was a student in England.

By then, the Suez crisis had cut her off from her family. "Suddenly I had no money. Because I was studying for an art-history degree during the day, every night the question was whether I or the cat would have dinner.

"But in those days you could still buy 18th-century fans in the Portobello Road for half a crown, so I was able to start collecting," she says. Mrs Alexander attributes her passion for collecting to genetics — her father assembled a celebrated collection of Roman coins and one of her uncles collected objets d'art, especially Chinese jade — "but he wouldn't buy green jade, as he thought green was unlucky, so it was a fairly specialised collection".



An American fixed fan, 1970s

Her background in art history has led Mrs Alexander to study the sources of the paintings and prints used in the designs on 18th-century fans, but her broad interests include such important subjects as the relationship of fans to costume and the social settings in which fans were used. Her collection is equally wide-ranging: exquisite 18th-century fans of carved ivory and painted silk sit next to novelties such as telescopic Victorian fans or those designed to contain an ear trumpet. There is a strong representation of European fans of the 1820s and 1830s — what Mrs Alexander calls the *époque romantique* — but then, she explains, that is because they were cheap in the 1960s, when she began to collect in earnest.

From the beginning, her acquisitions were for a potential museum, as she deliberately amassed fans in as many materials as possible. "I became particularly interested in the way cheap materials started to be used as a substitute for expensive ones: bone instead of ivory, horn instead of tortoiseshell. Collectors in the 1960s weren't so interested in these, so I was able to buy many examples."

Trips to sales at Christie's led to meetings with other collectors and, in 1970, Mrs Alexander became the founder president of the Fan Circle International, the principal society for collectors, which has major branches in Britain, America, France and Italy. When we spoke, she was planning an exhibition to mark the society's 25th anniversary, which will include some spectacular rarities lent by private collectors.

It was soon after becoming president of the Fan Circle that Mrs Alexander had the idea of creating the world's first fan museum. The acquisition of the two 18th-century houses in Greenwich was made possible by the charitable foundation created from the proceeds of the sale of her father's coin collection. A great deal of work had to be done to the buildings to convert them into the museum, which opened in 1991.

A visit is undoubtedly the best way to begin learning about fans, especially because an entire gallery is devoted to explaining the materials and techniques of fan manufacture. Mrs Alexander also advises enthusiasts to study the collections formed by turn-of-the-century society ladies, such as the Rothschild fans on show at Waddesdon Manor or the Messel collection which can be seen at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.

Antique fans can still be bought at auctions, notably at Christie's in South Kensington and Sotheby's in Billingshurst. Specialist dealers in London include the Oriental Art Gallery, for top-quality oriental fans.

But are there any unexploited areas for new collectors to explore? "Remember, today's kitsch is tomorrow's collectable," Mrs Alexander says. "Although it is unlikely that gaudy plastic and lace Spanish fans will be collected in the future, we do have some examples in the museum.

"Modern Chinese painted fans are interesting, or if you want something old, what about fans painted with biblical scenes or fans which carry advertisements, which are much sought after but still cheap because they are so plentiful?" Like many well-established collectors in any field, Mrs Alexander pours scorn on the high prices some rarities now fetch. "Thousands of pounds for a printed fan, for instance, is absurd — you may think it is unique, but another example is bound to come along. You can still acquire a really interesting collection without ever paying sums like that."

> ‘Today's kitsch is tomorrow's collectable. We even have plastic and lace fans in the museum’

However, many private collectors will be heading for the next sale of fans at Christie's South Kensington, on May 31, where some of the estimates are in the thousands — £25,000 for a Fabergé fan, for example, and £10,000 for a very rare English 18th-century fan which incorporates a watch in its pivot.

But there are more modest lots for £100 or less, which include several of the 19th and 20th-century advertising fans mentioned by Mrs Alexander. And as Susan Mayor, Christie's fan expert, points out, it is still possible to buy 18th-century fans in less than perfect condition for a little under £100.

To retain fans in good condition, some simple rules need to be followed: "Do not frame them and hang them on the wall," Mrs Alexander says. "Keep them closed, in their own boxes if possible, or wrapped in acid-free paper, in a stable environment.

"Be careful about replacing old repairs — many collectors will value details such as silver mounts covering cracked ivory sticks, for example, as they are an important part of the object's history, and show how fans have been loved and valued in the past by the women they adorned."

MICHAEL HALL

● *The author is the architectural editor of* Country Life.



Fans were often used for advertising: a 1920s English fan for a caterers; one for a French cognac (c. 1930); and a 1970s example for Japan Airlines

THE TIMES/NPI

PASSPORT TO HISTORIC HOUSES

SPECIAL EVENTS

NPI TREASURES OF BRITAIN CAMPAIGN
SUPPORTED BY THE TIMES

From high above Fal Estuary at **Pendennis Castle, Falmouth, Cornwall**, at noon on Saturday, June 3, you can watch the start of the 'Azores and Back' boat race. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the race features over seventy competitors.

PENDENNIS CASTLE is a testament to the quality of coastal defences erected by Henry VIII. The well preserved granite gun fort and outer ramparts with great angled bastions defended against invasion from the sea, but it was captured from the land after a long siege during the Civil War.

Admission: adults £2.20; children free; OAPs £1.70.

Times/NPI Passport holders have been offered a third-off the admission price.

Details: 01326 316594

Pendennis Castle, Keep, view from south



KIRBY MUXLOE CASTLE, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire, a picturesque, moated, brick-built castle begun in 1480, hosts the English Civil War Society's re-enactment of the 'Twilight of the King's Army' portraying Royalist Infantry in the Naesby Campaign, 1645, from noon on Saturday, June 10 and Sunday, June 11.

On June 14, 1645 Charles I's Oxford army bravely fought its last battle at Naesby, outnumbered and overwhelmed by Parliament's forces. See the Demi-Culverin cannon, displays of drill and battle tactics performed by pikemen and musketeers of the Marquis of Winchester's Regiment; visit an authentic encampment and experience campaign life during those fateful days.

Admission: adults £3.00; children £1.50; OAPs £2.25.

Times/NPI Passport holders have been offered a third-off the admission price.

Details: 01926 52078

DEAL CASTLE, Deal, Kent, is the venue for 'A Tudor Murder Mystery' from noon on Saturday, June 10 and Sunday, June 11. Try to solve the mystery as the 16th century garrison hunt for a murderer in their midst. Only the victim knew his or her identity, so everyone will be seeking the truth ... who is the guilty party?

Admission: adults £3.00; children £1.50; OAPs £2.25.

Times/NPI Passport holders have been offered a third-off the admission price.

Details: 01304 372762

Over the summer months the NPI Treasures of Britain Campaign will offer Times/NPI Passport holders the opportunity to visit many of Britain's most beautiful historic properties at special rates.

To launch this magnificent celebration of Britain's heritage, English Heritage is extending its special 'kids go free' weekend of June 3/4 to give Passport holders free entry to all its properties. All you need to do to take advantage of the special offers and concessions is to show your Passport Card.

The NPI Treasures of Britain Campaign, sponsored by pensions specialist NPI, in association with *The Times*, aims to widen interest in the preservation of Britain's heritage with specific reference to Britain's historic properties.



Clark Gable on a *Gone With The Wind* fan

Fan collecting fact box

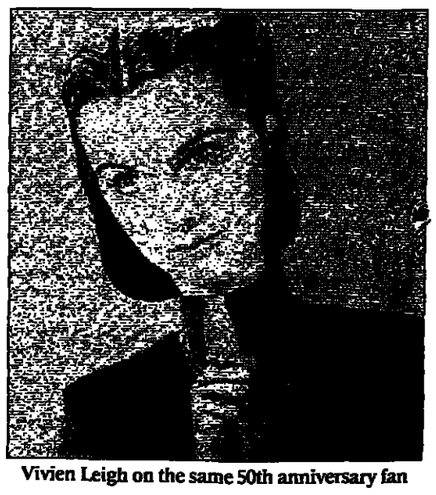
☐ The Fan Museum is at 12 Crooms Hill, Greenwich, London SE10 (0181-858 7879). Opening hours: Tues-Sat 11am-4.30pm; Sun noon-4.30pm.

☐ The best introduction is *Fans* by Helene Alexander (Shire Publications, £2.25). See also *The Collector's Guide to Fans* by Susan Mayor which will be published this month by Studio Editions (£4.95).

☐ For more information about the Fan Circle International, telephone Susan Mayor on 0171-321 3211. The exhibition to mark the Fan Circle's 25th anniversary will be held at the Fan Museum from May 16 to October 2.

☐ For information about sales at Christie's South Kensington call 0171-839 9060. The Oriental Art Gallery is at 4 Davies Street, London W1 (0171-499 7009).

☐ Public collections include those at two National Trust houses, Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire (01296 651282) and Ickworth House in Suffolk (01284 735270), as well as the Messel fans at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge (01223 332900). Royal fans are shown at Frogmore House, in the grounds of Windsor Castle, Berkshire (01753 868286) and the important collection assembled in the 19th century by Lady Charlotte Schreiber can be seen by appointment at the British Museum (0171-636 1555).

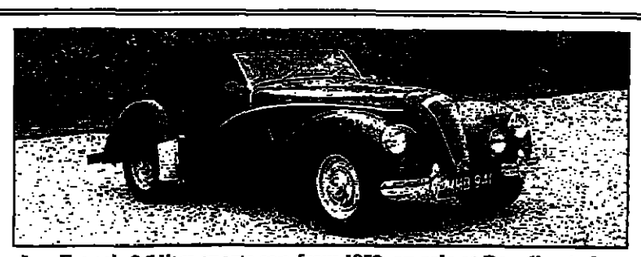


Vivien Leigh on the same 50th anniversary fan

☐ Lord Montagu is selling the first veteran car he acquired 42 years ago for his motor museum in Beaulieu. **Christie's** hopes the 1906 Renault 20/30 HP limousine will fetch between £35,000 and £45,000 at today's classic car sale in the grounds of Beaulieu. Also on offer is a 1950 Lea Francis sports car (pictured), estimated at £14,000 to £16,000.

☐ Also today, **Phillips** Chester is offering antique metalwork, treen and bygones found in the attic of a pre-war semi in Manchester. The 200 to 300 candlesticks, weighing scales and tea caddies were owned by the late Derrick Bradbury, co-founder and chairman of the National Horsebrass Society and treasurer of the Pewter Society. Prices range from a few pounds to thousands.

☐ **Saffron Walden Auctions's** "Rock and Roll years" sale tomorrow includes a coat John Lennon wore during his Quarrymen days at £1,000 to £1,500, as well as some 50 slot machines for £100 to £600 each.



Lea Francis 2.5 litre sports car, from 1950, on sale at Beaulieu today

SALEROOM

☐ Relive the Battle of Britain in an Irvin jacket as worn by allied airmen, on offer for £200 to £400 at **Onslows's** sale of aeronautical items at Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, also tomorrow. A selection of propellers from famous aircraft, such as the 1914-18 British SE5A fighter, are for sale from £500 to £600 each.

☐ Chess fanatics are in for a treat at **Phillips** in London on Monday with a collection of more than 100 chess sets and chess memorabilia. Prices start at £50 for a book entitled *Chess Men for Collectors* and rise to an estimated £8,000 to £12,000 for an East India Company set carved from ivory.

☐ Among a wide variety of furniture and collectibles at the **Bristol Auction Rooms** sale on Tuesday are three plates containing circus images, based on the paintings of Laura Knight (£300 to £500 each) and a Wurlitzer model 1100 jukebox dating from the 1940s (£4,000 to £5,000).

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

● *Christie's classic car sale, Palace House, Beaulieu, Hampshire (for information 0171-839 9060); Bristol Auction Rooms, St John's Place, Apsley Road, Clifton, Bristol (0117-973 7201); Onslow's, the Grand Shuttleworth Aerojumble, Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire (for information 0171-371 0505); Phillips London, 101 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-629 6602); Phillips North West, 150 Christleton Road, Chester, Cheshire (01244 313936); Saffron Walden Auctions, 1 Market Street, Saffron Walden (01799 513281).*

Mock not the artist of the spud field



FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

You can mock him, ridicule him, laugh at him until your sides split if you like, but do not expect me to join in the howls of derision that have greeted the artist Stanley Steele, who has been given a grant of £1,000 to plant a field of potatoes, by hand. He will record it all on video throughout the year, lift the ripe potatoes, wrap them individually, and sell them as a memorial to his work.

The event has been described as "educational art". Cynics might say that the art was in squeezing the money out of Colchester Borough Council, Essex, and other sponsors in the first place. I, however, am on Mr Steele's side.

To my eye, a newly ridged potato field is a truly fine sight. If the farmer has done his job well, long, triangular baulks will stretch from one end of the field to the other, with the seed potato safely tucked away. To draw the baulks precisely parallel calls for great skill and patience, but the reward is huge.

I was once driving across the Yorkshire wolds as the sun was setting and came across a newly ridged potato field. The ridges round the headland had a gentle sweep to them, as a result of the surrounding hedge imposing a pattern on the tractor driver to follow. As the low sun cast long, sweeping shadows across this huge field, the changing pattern of black shadowy lines across light, dappled soil was mesmerising.

Mr Steele is using a vintage tractor to draw his baulks. I would have urged him, in the name of art, to have used carthorses. I have found the drawing out of baulks to be the greatest challenge of horse-drawn cultivation. Not only does it call for supremely obedient horses but the man holding the plough has to be total master of it. Whereas in ploughing a dodgy furrow will be well hidden by the next one, with potato baulks the slightest wobble is magnified, and remains there throughout the season. It is a shaming thing to behold on a farm.

No, I am with him. Planting spuds, as it used to be done, is a work of art and Mr Steele has served to remind me how many of our other traditional practices might fall under the same heading. We are approaching that season of the year when old Dilly arrives with his hoe to "chop out" mangels. This is all wrist and foot action and a joy to behold. I shall be writing to the Heritage Lottery Fund people to see if they would like to support that form of art. It beats a lot of modern dance.

Only one doubt crosses my mind about Mr Steele's artistic exercise. He has said that his inspiration came from an old photograph of a lone man, planting potatoes by hand. I wonder if it is the same photograph I am thinking of. If so, Mr Steele may be barking up a rather less romantic tree than he thinks. There is a photograph, famous hereabouts, which shows a grand old horseman, Mr Aldred of Blythburgh in Suffolk. He, too, is planting potatoes by hand, on land cultivated with horses. The backdrop to this picture is Blythburgh church, which stands on a rise amid the marshes where the River Blyth meets the sea at Southwold; these days it is illuminated at night, and turning a corner of the dreary A12 to be confronted by the sight of it, bravely standing alone on the marsh, can move you to tears. It is known as "The Queen of the Marshes".

So the church can be seen behind Bob, who is holding the handles of his potato-ridging plough, setting his countryman's eye on the distant horizon. The horses' manes flow in the breeze, every square inch of the picture speaks of spring and the eternal optimism that accompanies the planting of the seed. All in all, quite a good snap.

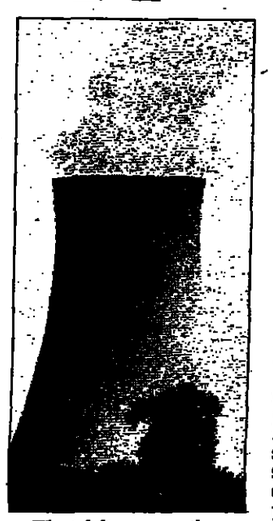
What makes the picture remarkable, however, and has caused it to be the subject of much speculation, is the bucket of seed potatoes which Mr Aldred has lashed between the two handles of the plough. It gives the impression that not only is he driving his horses and guiding his plough but dropping the spuds in the furrow as he does so. It is, of course, impossible. It would be like asking a busy trombone player to give an occasional beat on a drum. There are simply not enough hands to go round.

I was lucky enough to meet Mr Aldred before he died. I asked him about that remarkable photograph. A twinkle formed in his eyes; then he laughed. The true story is that the local newspaper turned up, looking for a quick picture. When the women whom Mr Aldred had employed to drop the potatoes spotted the camera, they were horrified. They were claiming unemployment benefit and did not wish to be seen in a county-wide newspaper doing paid employment. So as not to disappoint the photographer, Mr Aldred put a bucket between the handles of his plough and posed accordingly. He was the first to admit that it was impossible to plant potatoes that way.

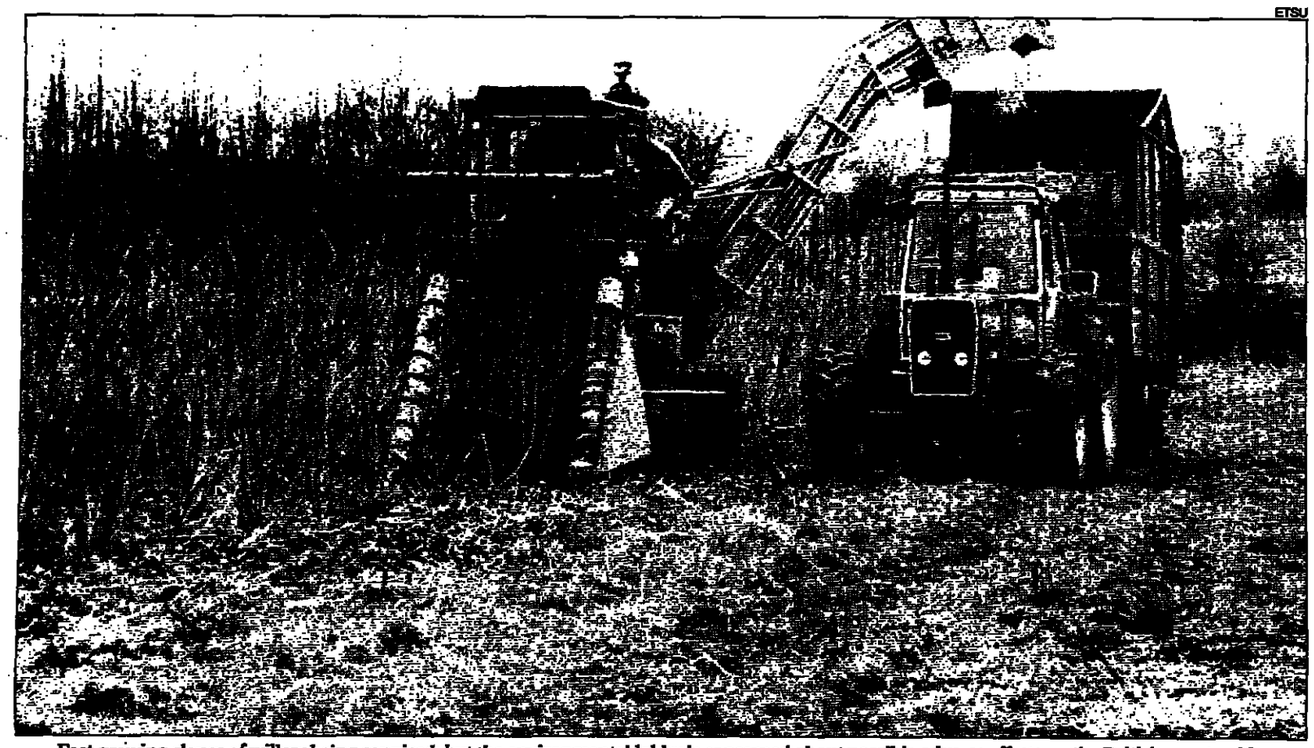
So if it was that photograph that inspired Mr Steele, what he has created is not a celebration of a field of potatoes, but a monument to our social security system — which, I suppose you could argue, is a work of art in its own right.

As more land is being taken out of food production, plans are afoot to grow willows and poplars as fuel for power stations

Burning issue of coppicing



Electricity generating stations fuelled by coppice wood could displace today's coal-fired stations



ETSU

Fast-growing clones of willow being coppiced: but the environmental lobby is concerned about possible adverse effects on the British countryside

Nearly 7.5 million acres of Britain's farmland will have been pushed out of food production by the year 2025, according to Oxford University's Environmental Change Unit. Less predictable is what will happen to it.

One option gaining ground is to plant fast-growing clones of willow and poplar trees that can be mechanically coppiced (cut and regrown) on a three-year cycle. The resulting supply of wood could be chipped and burnt in power stations to generate electricity.

This has a strong claim to environmental friendliness. Global warming is largely caused by the atmospheric build up of carbon dioxide, a potent greenhouse gas released by burning fossil fuels, such as oil and coal. If a power station is burning wood, at least it is only releasing the carbon dioxide previously soaked up by the trees.

The new generation of hybrid cloned trees can produce 30 tonnes of dry wood per 2.5 acres at the end of their first three years. And once established, says Caroline Foster, of the Energy Technology Support Unit (ETSU), this can increase to as much as 20 tonnes of dry wood chips per 2.5 acres a year, equivalent to more than 13 tonnes of coal.

This impressive figure could increase further, says Dr Jonathan Scurlock, a biomass energy specialist at King's College, London, because today's tree varieties are the result of just a few decades of selective breeding and hybridisation. He believes that, with further breeding and genetic engineering, the productivity of energy, or biomass, coppices could be doubled.

Similar improvements are taking place with electricity generation. "The conventional power plants simply burn the fuel and use the heat to boil what is in effect a large kettle," Dr Scurlock says. "Then the high-pressure steam drives a turbine, but this can turn only about 20 per cent of the heat into electricity."

By contrast, the new "gasification" technology heats the woodchips in an oxygen-free container, causing them to give off a flammable gas mixture. Burnt on a small scale in an internal combustion engine, up to 30 per cent of the wood's thermal energy can be converted to electricity. And it is possible to achieve 40 per cent efficiency by using gas turbines for larger-scale power generation.

These technologies received a boost in the latest round of the Government's Non Fossil Fuel Obligation (NOFFO) contracts, which pay a premium for electricity from selected renewable sources. Out of 627 megawatts of new generation capacity, 123mW are from biomass sources, of which 19mW are from three gasification projects.

Electricity produced by gasification will cost 8.65p per unit, about double the NOFFO average, but the price should fall sharply as experience develops. If it does, biomass plantations could become one of Britain's biggest renewable energy sources. Today's biomass plantations store up about six kilowatts of solar power per 2.5 acres on average over the year, enough to generate a continuous 2kW of electricity after deducting the energy cost of production. So, if just a third of Britain's 7.5 million acres of surplus land were put down to biomass coppice, this would come to 2,000mW — enough to displace a large coal-fired power station.

While this may look environmentally friendly on a planetary scale, what of its impact on the British countryside? Transport costs are high, so electricity would be generated in thousands of small power stations, each drawing in fuel from the countryside around. Although their impact should be offset by the closure in other parts of the country of power stations and coal stripmines, we could expect plenty of local resistance.

Wildlife benefits are bleak: arable fields are planned with coppice because it provides good cover for birds, invertebrates and small mammals. But Nicholas Milton, of the Wildlife Trusts Partnership, gives a warning: "It is essential that energy crops do not replace new environmental schemes, which would certainly have far greater conservation benefits."

Another worry is that the thirsty willows and poplars might dry out springs and streams as they suck water from the ground. This is being studied for the Department of Trade and Industry, which will publish its findings next year. But Dr Foster says early indications are that willow coppice may use little more water than grassland, while improving water quality by "mopping up" all the excess nutrients.

Lilly Matson, of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, has another concern: the impact on the landscape if broad swaths of open land are covered with 10ft high coppices. "We need safeguards to protect vulnerable landscapes," she says. "Biomass coppices must not be allowed to repeat the mistakes of creating ugly, square-cornered conifer plantations. While coppice plantations can often look good at a distance, ramblers will be less keen on walking through miles of it."

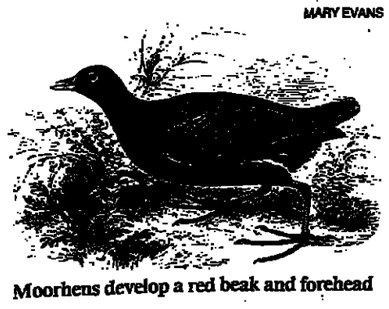
Biomass coppice could bring much good to Britain's countryside, restoring energy self-sufficiency to rural communities, providing employment and creating new wildlife habitat. But to avoid the environmental negatives, sensitivity will be needed. And this could be a problem.

If we are to have our projected 7.5 million acres of biomass coppice by 2025, we should be planting about 250 acres of it a day nationwide. And with a target like that to meet, how sensitive can you be, realistically?

OLIVER TICKELL

First of the water babes float in

MARY EVANS



Moorhens develop a red beak and forehead

Feather Report

THE FIRST young moorhens are out on the water. As yet, they are little more than dark balls of fluff, except for their extraordinary heads. Their beaks are pink with a yellow tip; the embryo shields on their foreheads are also pink, and above that they have a patch of bright blue skin. These colourful young things are being well looked after by their parents.

The nest they have just left is a small tower of sticks and reeds, and the adults have built more, similar resting places for them.

The young will be fed by their parents for three weeks while they learn how to cope with living on a pond or a river.

Kestrels may fall on them, pike may leap up at them, but some will survive. Then the adults will start nesting again, and the young moorhens of the first brood will find themselves helping to feed the nestlings of the next. So moorhen families have a busy summer ahead of them.

There may even be a third brood, and the water will be thronging with moorhens of all ages. By late summer, the first-brood young will be looking much more grown-up, but their beaks and shields will still not be red like their parents; at this point, these features will be going through a green phase.

Moorhens are familiar birds, nodding their heads as they chug along beside a riverbank or running helter-skelter for the water, their necks stretched out if they are disturbed when they have flown up to feed on the grass. Yet they are still rather mysterious creatures. In the early part of the year, when they are first paired, the male and female are very attentive to each other. If they pass each other, they tilt their tails with a flash of the white edges.

They build special display platforms of reeds and rushes, and both sexes stand on these platforms and bow their heads between their legs, in the position the female will later use when she wants the male to mate with her. These curious performances seem to bind the pair together.

There is also what we would think of as a rather vicious side to their nature. After mating, the male will often chase the female and then give her a sharp peck from behind.

However, it is hard to think that rival moorhens appreciate the treatment they get. Moorhens, like their larger relatives the coots, fight fiercely to defend their territories. They rise up and scratch and bite each other — sometimes four birds dancing in a ring, with both the members of two pairs taking part.

I have seen a strong bird seize the neck of a rival and force its head underwater to try to drown it. The victim escaped by swimming away under the surface, but as soon as it bobbed up, the other bird skittered rapidly over to attack it again.

All the same, moorhens are generally bright, amiable birds, agreeable to have around. Just before the Second World War, a philosophical ornithologist named Eliot Howard published a book about them, entitled *A Waterhen's Worlds*. He wrote that the moorhen's world "is always in the present, and mostly full of joy". Let us hope that he was right.

DERWENT MAY

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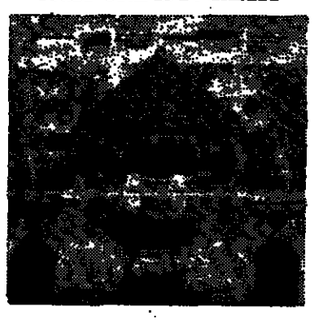
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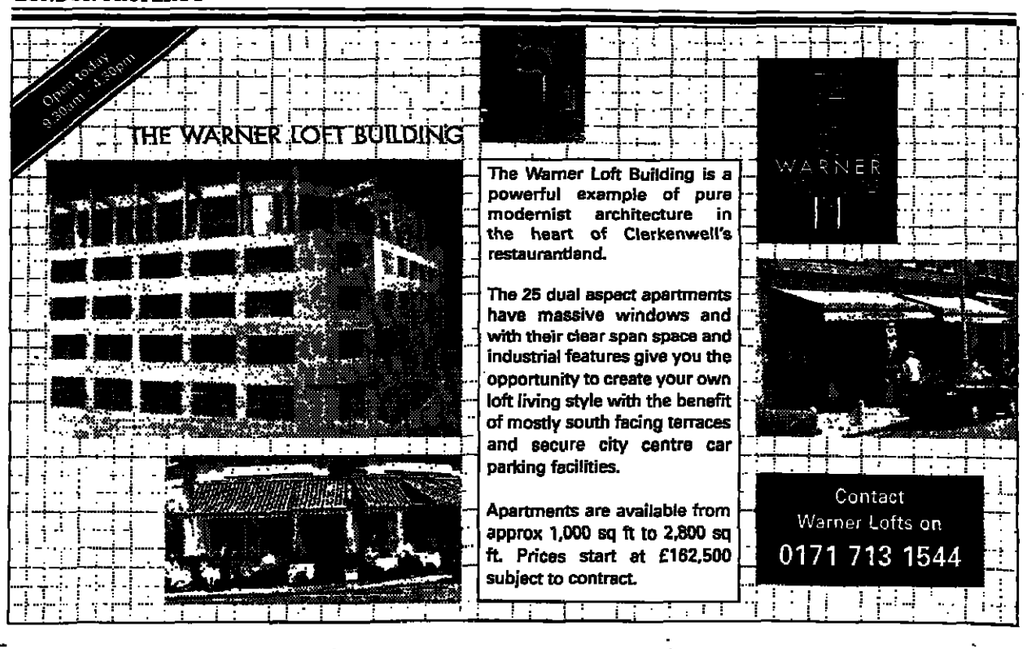
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AFRICA TRAVEL NEWS

☐ WITH two million visitors a year, Zimbabwe is rapidly building a reputation as the most dependable tourist destination in Africa, *writes Michael Hartnack.*

The country retains an atmosphere of old world courtesy, cleanliness and efficiency which is reassuring for the European visitor. The crime rate is far lower than in neighbouring South Africa, and in most remote parts there are usually good doctors, pharmacies, private clinics and an airborne medical emergency service.

The main tourist draw remains the Victoria Falls, where the mile-wide Zambezi River vanishes in a perennial cloud of spray into a chasm in the earth's crust. The 400ft high falls are the focal point of a vast adventure playground of game reserves, safari areas and fishing camps. There is also white-water rafting, game viewing among the islands, and even bunjee jumping and abseiling in the fall's gorges.

Above all, for the British visitor, Zimbabwe is cheap with an exchange rate of about 13 Zimbabwean dollars to the pound. This means that, for example, a prime steak costs about for £3, while a night at a clean two-star hotel costs about £20 for a double room.

Just a short flight from Victoria Falls, the 200-mile long man-made Lake Kariba (see right) offers fishing, scuba diving and spectacular sunsets over watery horizons.

☐ TOURISM in The Gambia was nearly brought to its knees after the Foreign Office warned British tourists not to go because of fighting, *writes Harvey Elliott.*

But the industry is recovering. The Gambia Hotel Association has generated enough business to fill one charter flight a week from Britain, operated by The Gambia Experience. Holidays start from £289 for B&B.

From next winter, there will be two wide-body Boeing 767 flights a week, operated on behalf of Thomson Holidays — one from Manchester by Airtours, one from Gatwick by The Gambia Experience — and shared flights from Cosmos, First Choice, Tropical Places and Sunworld. A typical four-star half-board seven-night holiday at the Sene Gambia Beach hotel, booked through Thomson, starts at £379, between October 20 and November 7.

TRAVEL TIPS

☐ Metak Holidays (0171-935 6961) has two-centre holidays combining a city break in Istanbul with a beachside stay in northern Cyprus. For 14 nights (five in Istanbul, nine in Kyrenia), prices start from £439 based on two sharing, including return flights from Heathrow with three-star hotel B&B in Istanbul and self-catering in Kyrenia.

☐ Affordable Italy's brochure (01233 211617) covers Italian cities, coasts and lakes, plus Sardinia and Sicily. Prices start from £199 for a week's self-catering villa at Ravello.

☐ Moswin Tours (0116-271 9922) has announced savings of up to £411 on its Rhine cruises between Amsterdam and Basle on a choice of dates in May, June, July, August and September. Seven nights now cost £599 per person including return flights from Heathrow, Stansted or regional airports, and full-board accommodation on the *Rhine Princess*. Moswin has also dropped its single-room supplements.

☐ A mini-brochure detailing late availability deals to 50 sites in France, with reductions of up to £169 per party, has been issued by French Country Camping (01923 261311). A two-week holiday in July for two adults and two children at St Emilion, Dordogne or Malbuisson, Jura costs £142 each, inclusive of Stena Sealink crossing and tent accommodation. Other savings include £161 per party for arrivals between June 30 and July 3. All bookings must be received before the end of May and insurance arranged with the operator.

☐ Cresta (0161-926 9999) is offering 20 per cent reductions on self-drive, self-catering holidays in 14 holiday villages in France, departing up to July 1. For example, £362 for seven nights at Cap Esterel, Provence for two adults and two children (reduction of £91) including return ferry for car and passengers.

CHRISTINE WHEELER

AFRICA: Track lions and elephants on a safari deep into the Zimbabwean bush . . .

STILL PICTURES



A line of elephants makes its way to the water's edge. "Don't worry, they are gentle creatures," the guide calmly informed the safari trip, "they will only charge if threatened"

Big game, very few winners

"Under no circumstances run away from a lion," our safari guide advised in solemn tones. "A frightened lion is a dangerous lion. Better to hold your ground, and slowly return to the Land Rover."

Such words of advice were easy for him. He was the only one with a rifle. The rest of us were armed only with our Nikons and designer sunglasses. Besides, none of us had the intention of getting that close to the big game.

We were on our first early-morning game drive, the day after arriving at the remote Fothergill Island on Zimbabwe's breathtakingly beautiful Lake Kariba. Still wiping the sleep from our eyes, we had set off in search of a pride of lions which were rumoured to have roamed on to the island from the adjacent Matusadona National Park.

Bumping along the bush road in our open-sided vehicle, the dew still fresh on the ground, we zipped between giant termite mounds and ageing acacia trees with a recklessness that would have made even the most brazen car thief wince.

It is difficult to imagine a wilder place. Elephants thrashed their way through the bush. Herds of impalas snorted their alarms as we bounced our way through gully and stream. The water buffaloes stared menacingly as we approached the lake.

Emerging from the bush into a clearing, we stumbled on a pride of a dozen or more lions nonchalantly feasting on the rotting carcass of a dead hippopotamus. Our guide pulled up sharply, a few hundred yards from this timeless African spectacle. As we sat and stared, his advice now seemed redundant. None of us was going to get out and go walkabout.

After gazing on this scene for a few hours, it was not hard to see why the island is known as the Garden of Eden. Fothergill is not like other African safari resorts. When you stumble across a pride of lions or a herd of elephants, you do not find yourself surrounded by a dozen striped Combi vans full of people waving video cameras. You are, literally, on your own, with only your guide's rifle as insurance.

After lunch back at the safari lodge, we set off into the bush again, this time in search of elephants. Our guide's prodigious knowledge of Zimbabwe's flora and fauna rapidly earned him our respect. The knowledge that he can fell a charging bull elephant with a single shot, and identify every kind of bird, butterfly and insect, was reassuring and instructive.

For those in our party who had never been in the bush before, the guide's tracking skills seemed astonishing. Within minutes he had us poking about in heaps of elephant dung, testing the temperature, and trying to work out how much time had elapsed since the herd passed.

After an hour or so following their great round footprints, we suddenly found ourselves encircled in a herd of about 40. It happened so quickly that we were caught off guard. While we tried to suppress our fear, our guide calmly informed us that "elephants are gentle creatures. They will only charge if threatened."

One cow, clearly irritated by our presence, decided to inspect us at close range. She looked like a two-storey house ambling through the bush as she wandered towards us. One loud snort and a flap of those huge ears was enough to ignite a silent panic. Catherine, the only woman in our group, turned away as if to pretend it was not happening, and was horrified to discover three more elephants approaching from the rear.

No one dared speak, but we all wanted to hightail it out of there. Unfortunately, the elephants were too close. Realising that we had released enough adrenaline for one day, our guide gently released the hand brake. We rolled down the hill backwards, shifted into first, made our exit through a clearing, and then roared with laughter.

On the way back to camp we stopped for a gin and tonic among the termite mounds, and watched the sun set. On the horizon, we could see a convoy of elephants making its way to the water's edge. Hyenas cackled in the distance, while the hippopotamuses romped in the lakeside mud. As the sun descended into Lake Kariba, the thought of never returning to London seemed almost irresistible.



> On to the raw power of Victoria Falls

The biblical imagery so often used to describe this remote corner of Africa is not out of place. Fothergill Island was created in the late 1950s when the colonial administrations of Northern and Southern Rhodesia (now Zambia and Zimbabwe) decided to flood the Zambezi valley to create a much-needed source of hydro-electric power.

As the Zambezi steadily swelled and drowned the valley, creating a lake 200km long and 40km wide, Rupert Fothergill gained immortality by launching Operation Noah, which relocated some 5,000 animals. The island, and the bush lodges which have sprung up to cater for game-watching, have been able to draw on that legacy.

Kariba's beauty is beyond question. It may be artifical in origin, but nature lost no time reclaiming it. The rising waters left thousands of giant mahogany and teak trees all but submerged. Their petrified branches still pierce the tranquil surface, providing a resting place for the cormorants, sparrowhawks, kites, fish eagles and myriad other species which perch on the skeletal tree tops during the spectacular liquid sunsets.

Back at the safari lodge, we sat and swapped tales of terror with the other guests over bottles of Mukuyu Cabernet Merlot from the Ruzawi River valley.

This was only our first day. Zimbabwe's Hwange national park, an area the size of Switzerland, and the raw power of Victoria Falls, still flowing after 150 million years, awaited us.

But the exhilaration, unadulterated fear, and memories of our first day on safari will remain with each of us to the grave.

MICHAEL DYNES



Fact File

☐ Michael Dynes travelled as a guest of British Airways Holidays (01293 611361).

☐ Until June 3, a nine-day safari starts from £1,391. This includes flights, accommodation (in Harare, Lake Kariba, Hwange and Victoria Falls), transfers, game drives, meals and a guide.



Let's

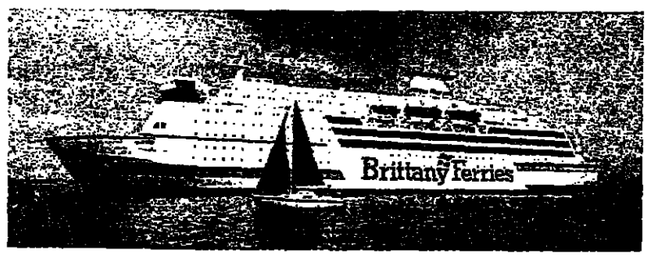
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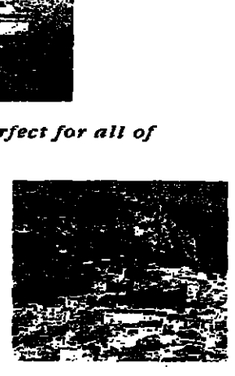
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. . . discover Namibia's rare desert plants and abundant wildlife, or spend a weekend in bustling Cape Town

Life as a Cape crusader

Perhaps in our long obsession with the politics of South Africa we neglected the country's more simple virtues. They are striking to a first-time visitor.

If your are fortunate enough to be going to the Rugby World Cup you will be greeted with a courtesy reminiscent of Britain several decades ago: you will be treated everywhere to the most generous of breakfasts; if you travel with a child you will be made especially welcome, and, regardless of which part of the country you visit, you will find scenery, flora and fauna, especially



Beautiful Table Mountain

bird life, to rival anything in Europe.

Add this to an advantageous exchange rate, a burgeoning wine industry and a largely empty but majestic coastline and it is not difficult to see why South Africa is the fastest growing tourist destination for Britons. The first flush of post-apartheid optimism may have worn off, but it has given way to a determination that recognises tourism as a vital ingredient in keeping the new show on the road.

I was invited on a trip by the South African Tourism Board designed, among other things, to demonstrate that Cape Town is a feasible weekend destination. It is, admittedly, a long and ambitious weekend but, because there is only one hour's time difference, one which can be undertaken without fear of jet lag. If you are blessed with the ability to sleep soundly in flight, then it is possible to get off the aircraft in the morning and go on a city tour before checking in to your hotel.

Table Mountain is one of those sights that lives up to its geography-text-book image. Even the table-cloth cloud was in place, spilling down towards the leafy suburbs. But on the next clear morning a trip to the top in the cable car proved the best way to view the city, which sprawls around its bays and spreads raggedly across the Cape Flats. It also afforded a close look at two eagles which emerged from a rock crevice to swoop majestically below us.

The Cape of Good Hope is a sight that comprehensively fails to match its textbook image. It is merely one among several rocky headlands at the tip of the Cape Peninsula. But the drive there is worth while. From what other major city could an hour-long drive include walking among penguins on a beach, locking the car against curious baboons and viewing whales at play in the bay? Seek out the Seaforth or Black Marlin restaurants in Simonstown on the False Bay side of the peninsula and you might even be able to see the whales and penguins while eating fresh fish.

There are a few ostriches and zebra in the nature reserve at the Cape but its real glory is its vegetation, known as Fynbos, from which so many of our garden plants, pelargoniums, daisies and heathers are descended. It also features a wonderful array of proteas. The return road to Cape Town along the Atlantic side of the peninsula sweeps high round the vertiginious Chapman's Peak with views of the mighty Atlantic breakers and a likely soaking if you stop to admire. Like a lot of South Africa's coast this is excellent territory for surfers.

One of the charms of South Africa in this new flush of tourism is the frankness of the people. There is no attempt to flannel tourists into believing everything is easy. Our guide was happy to discuss the huge problems which will be posed by attempts properly to house those who live in the ugly squatter camps which scar the Cape, to poke fun at Cape Town's motorway gap, where a miscalculation has left a major road disappearing over a sheer drop by the waterfront or share concern about whether the place has enough hotels to cope with a tourist boom.

By British standards eating out in South Africa is not expensive, although the locals express horror at the prices. Cape Town's revitalised Victoria & Alfred waterfront offers a range of places, from burger-style cafés to classy restaurants, where you might be tempted by ostrich steak, in a conveniently small area. But if you want to try something characteristically local, go to Riempies restaurant in the Cape Sun hotel which specialises in the delicious spicy food typical of the Cape's large Malay community.

For the best in food and drink around the Cape, take a trip out to the winelands where, apart from the pleasure of tastings, many of the white-washed Cape Dutch-style estate houses offer excellent French-influenced food. Also worth a visit are the spacious university town of Stellenbosch, the more homely settlement of Franschhoek with its monument to the



Flora to rival the Alps

Huguenots who brought their wine-making expertise here, and the agricultural centre of Paarl, with its more emphatic Afrikaner monument. At La Petite Ferme restaurant in wooded countryside near Franschhoek (you'll have to book in advance), you can sit out on the terrace and gaze at a view to rival the Alps, except that the flowers are more vivid and the climate is milder.

You could, of course, pack all this in to a weekend — we did. But it would leave you wanting more.

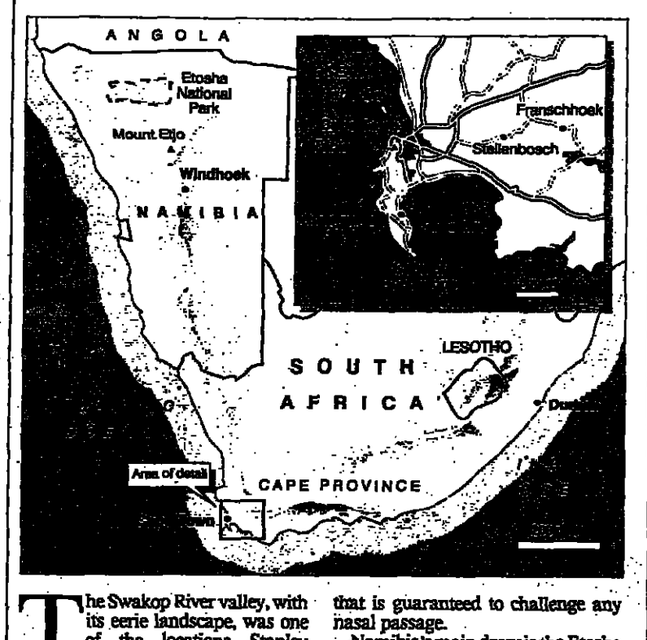
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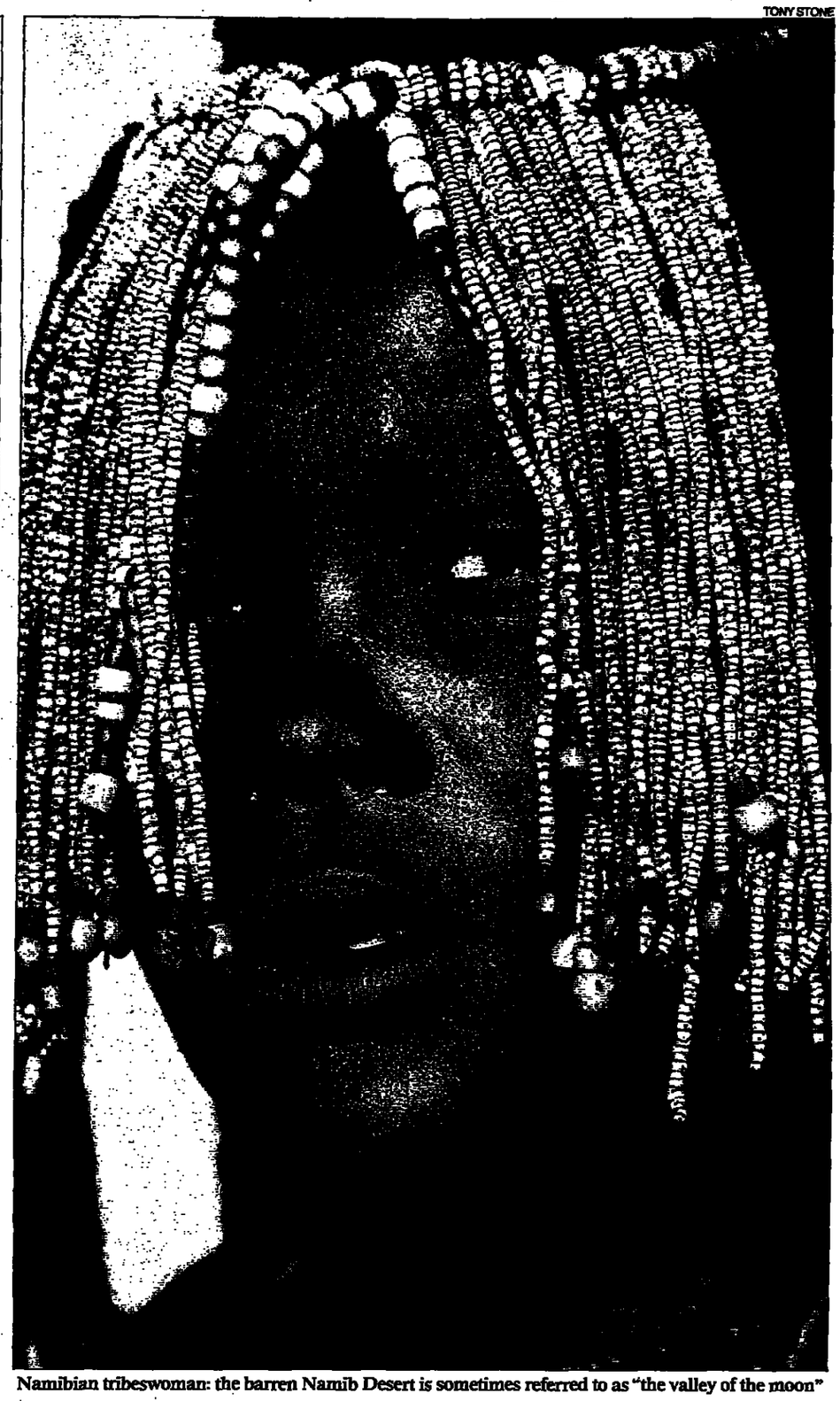
☐ Alan Copps was also a guest of South African Airways and Camps Bay Hotel.

☐ South African Tourism Board (0181-944 6080). South African Airways (0171-312 5000). Fares from £665. Rooms at Camps Bay from £125 (0027-21 438 4444).

The days of the Namib jackal



TONY STONE



Namibian tribeswoman: the barren Namib Desert is sometimes referred to as "the valley of the moon"

The Swakop River valley, with its eerie landscape, was one of the locations Stanley Kubrick chose to shoot his epic film, *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Often referred to as "the valley of the moon", this rugged terrain is just one aspect of the world's oldest desert, the Namib.

This wilderness spreads along Namibia's Atlantic coastline and so, despite a painfully low annual rainfall, early morning mist gives life to its hardy species of trees and plants. On the Welwitschia Plain, we saw the *Welwitschia mirabilis*, which has baffled botanists worldwide. This bizarre plant is endemic to the Namib Desert and is believed to have a lifespan approaching 2,000 years. The "grandfather" of this genus, the Giant Welwitschia, is a 1,500-year-old sprawling monstrosity and one of the rarest plants on the face of the planet. A makeshift wooden viewing gallery gives visitors the opportunity to gaze upon it.

> "We caught glimpses of ostrich, oryx, springbok, even chacma baboon"

Journeying through the desert on our way to Swakopmund, we also caught glimpses of the Namib Desert's wildlife: jackal, ostrich, Hartmann's mountain zebras, oryx, springbok, even chacma baboon. The wild baboons represent the only member of the simian group in Namibia and are considered vermin in the townships.

Swakopmund, Namibia's premier beach resort, is a charming town, its brightly painted turn-of-the-century buildings a relic of German rule. It is a haven for art collectors, with numerous galleries selling works by local artists of repute, such as Galloway and Schwanecke.

For all things African browse in Peter's Antiques in the heart of Swakopmund. Prices are reasonable and you'll find that the Namibian dollar will go a long way. (South African rand is still accepted tender and is of equal value.) Eating out is generally an inexpensive pleasure.

Cape Cross lies to the north of Swakopmund and is famous for its seal reserve with up to 100,000 Cape fur seals basking on the rocks and beaches. The sight is impressive, although it does come with a smell that is guaranteed to challenge any nasal passage.

Namibia's main draw is the Etosha National Park, one of the largest national parks on the African continent. Covering some 23,000 square kilometres of desert, savannah and woodlands, Etosha is teeming with wildlife (114 species of mammal) as well as rich birdlife.

As our Volkswagen microbus crawled through the park, we spotted giraffe, zebras, black-faced impala (endemic to Namibia), wildebeest, wart hog and black-backed jackal. We also saw our fair share of elephant and lion. Our guide, Peter Kovacs, helped to identify some of the less familiar species of antelope: dik-dik, kudu, steenbok and hartebeest. "There are nine varieties of antelope in the park and we've seen eight today," he said. We weren't grumbling, though our party of five agreed that some rhinos would not have gone amiss. A couple of us had spent the previous night at one of the floodlit waterholes in the park and had been rewarded with a brief appearance by two adults and a calf. But that night belonged to a show-stealing parade of elephants who seemed more intent on teasing the meagre crowd with their sluggish antics than on soaking up a trunkful of water.

Two days later, however, we saw our rhinos on an early morning game drive in Mount Etjo private game park. It was no easy task: we had to test the 4x4 vehicle to the limit, not to mention the tracking abilities of our guide. With the family of (white) rhinos in my sights — almost dangerously close — I forgot all about my rude awakening at 5am by the park's hippopotamuses which had been wallowing loudly not more than a few hundred yards from my quarters.

With about 160,000 inhabitants, Windhoek, Namibia's capital, is by no means a throbbing metropolis. In fact, it's the sort of place where, if you were intending to paint the town red you would need no more than a small tin. However, this is no major calamity as most visitors arrive jaded, having just completed an extensive tour of either the north or south regions of the country, and rest invariably tops the agenda. Should you wish to take in some of the sights and sounds of the city — and it is worthwhile — then head for Independence Avenue which forms the hub of the downtown area. One of the city's landmarks, the Evangelical Lutheran Church (Christuskirche), with its graceful spire is well worth a visit, as is Tintenpalast (Ink Palace), Windhoek's historic seat of government.

DAVID HACKETT

How to get there and where to stay

☐ David Hackett was a guest of Hayes & Jarvis (reservations: 0181-748 5050; fax: 0181-741 0299) in conjunction with Oryx Tours Namibia.

☐ He flew from Heathrow to Windhoek with Air Namibia (0181-944 6181) and spent the final two nights of his stay as a guest of the Safari Court Hotel in Windhoek.

☐ An eight-night Namib Explorer tour with Hayes & Jarvis costs from £1,340, including flights, an escorted seven-day tour plus full-board accommodation and two nights (bed & breakfast only) in Windhoek.

☐ For further information contact the Namibian Tourist Office, 6 Charles Street, London W1M 0LQ (0171-636 2924).



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* The itinerary for our 28 August departure is in reverse order.

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SPAIN: Córdoba pays its respects to a British artist who sowed the seeds of tourism

Paint the town with relatives

The traveller can sometimes be rewarded with a moment so memorable, so unexpectedly touching that it compensates for any trials of travel. So it was one evening recently, in a lamplit square in the Andalusian city of Córdoba, when my family found ourselves in the midst of a crowd singing *Onward Christian Soldiers* in Spanish.

It was a service of dedication, the culmination of a brief visit to Spain for the naming of this square after my great-grandfather, the artist F.W. Topham of Hampstead, who had died at Córdoba in 1877. The mayor had just named the square, with its children's playground and bandstand, Plaza del Pintor Topham, and now the local Protestant Evangelical congregation were singing the hymn.

The reason for this honour to Topham was that he had been one of the first artists to introduce the British to the light, colour and topographical delights of Spain at a time when survivors of the Peninsular War were still recalling their dark and horrific memories.

In a sense, perhaps, this bearded Victorian with his sketchbook was sowing the first seeds of mass tourism and I wondered, as we sang in the square, whether his efforts had been beneficial to Spain. His successors would now avoid the vulgarity of the Costas, where he had painted the fishermen, and it would be difficult to find such scenes as he recorded in *Preparing for the Festival* and *At the Wall*, for example.

Córdoba is often described as archetypally Spanish but the Islamic influence is everywhere, for it was once the capital of Moorish Spain. Topham first painted here in 1852, so missing two seasons of acting with his friend Charles Dickens's amateur theatrical company, and, in old age, he returned here to die after an exhausting 17-hour journey from Madrid by the new railway.

There is still a great deal of Córdoba that he would recognise: the narrow, cobbled streets, winding between low, whitewashed houses with doors open to display the flowery, tiled courtyards within; the Spanish palaces and, above all, the great mosque, the Mezquita (completed before the first Norman church was built in England), where the resurgent Spanish planted a cathedral in the midst of the avenues of columns and arches.

When I first visited Córdoba 35 years ago a few shops sold postcards, but the souvenir industry was not as it is now. In the streets around the Mezquita shops sell castanets, bullfight posters overprinted with the tourist's name, and not just black, flat-rimmed Spanish hats but safari hats, Australian hats and baseball caps. Leather and silver filigree are traditional Córdoban products but often the tackiness of tourism has corrupted their original rich, bold Spanish and Islamic designs.

Mercifully, that delightful institution, the tapas bar, has not yet been vulgarised. With their fading pictures of the Madonna, or long-dead bullfighters on their walls, it is in these bars that sometimes one can see those marvellous Spanish faces that Topham had painted with relish: the silent, saturnine men, the haughty beauties, and their elders built like the trunks of olive trees.

Out of doors there was an occasional flash of recognition on seeing some little tableau that he would instantly have sketched: a pavement fire-eater without any audience; an old man in black standing in the cemetery with bowed head before the plastic flowers on his wife's grave. The handsome, modern city is wrapped around all this but we seldom ventured there from our hotel, which was entered through a gate in the city walls. For a four-night visit, there was enough in the old city (museums, churches, palaces) to keep the eye and mind busy without over-taxing the feet. Alongside the Museo del Bellas Artes was another devoted to the Córdoban artist Julio Romero de Torres. He painted a different Spain from Topham's, where in the 1920s they were not so much preparing for the fiesta, or drawing water from the well, as glowering in jealousy, taking their clothes off or stabbing each other in crimes of passion.

Late Spanish eating hours made the morning the time for sightseeing, leaving shopping until after the siesta, when the shoe and leatherwork shops were a reminder that the word "cordwainer" for a shoemaker derived from "Córdovan". The late dinner-hour emphasised the nocturnal beauty of the city, the lamplight illuminating the texture of old white walls and carved façades, and throwing dramatic shadows.

Like most Victorian painters, Topham was sentimental, and I like to think he would have wanted to sketch an English family standing before an ancestral gravestone, and, later, singing their heads off in noisy, happy Anglo-Spanish harmony.

TOM POCOCK

ROBERT HARDING



The light, colour and topographical delights of Córdoba were first introduced to the British in the paintings of F.W. Topham (below)



Preparing for the Festival, painted by F.W. Topham in 1869

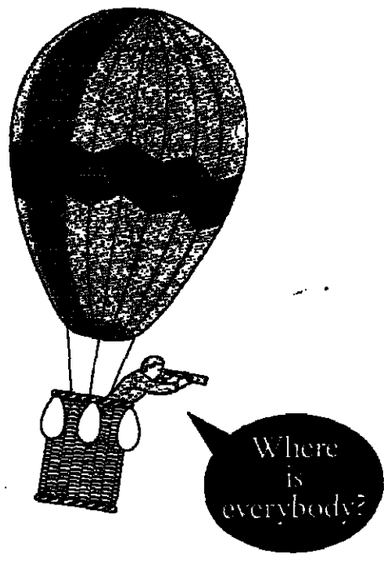
How to get there and where to stay

☐ Tom Pocock travelled with Magic of Spain, 227 Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7AS (0181-748 7575).

☐ Magic of Spain offers two nights at the hotel Amistad de Córdoba for £368 per person including flight, B&B and car hire. Thereafter it costs £39 per person per night including car hire.

☐ Iberia Airlines (0171-830 0011) flies daily between Heathrow and Seville. Fares start from £165 return.

☐ More information from the Spanish Tourist Office, 57 St James's Street, London SW1A 1LT (0171-499 0901).



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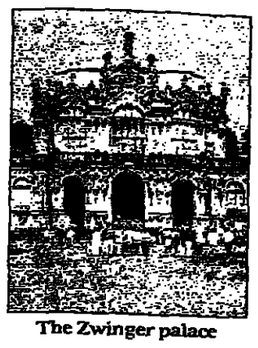
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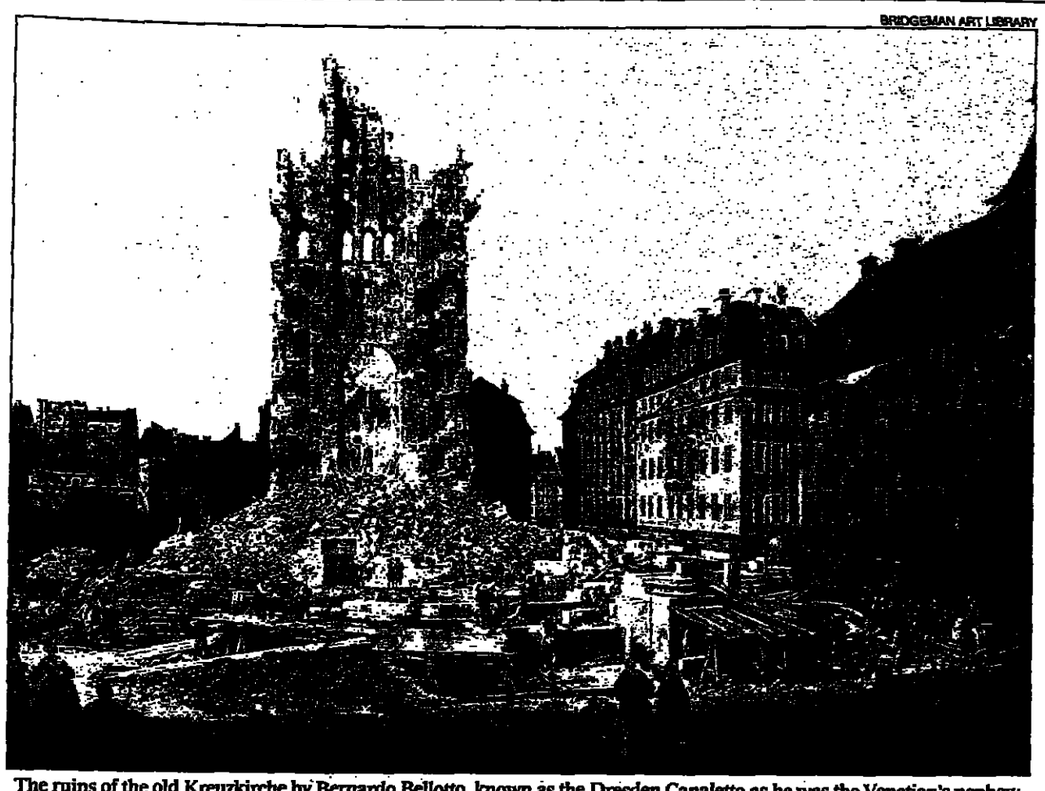
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هكذا من الأصل

GERMANY: The Frauenkirche dome is being rebuilt for Dresden's 800th birthday



The Zwinger palace



BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY

The ruins of the old Kreuzkirche by Bernardo Bellotto, known as the Dresden Canaletto as he was the Venetian's nephew

A city on the mend

A million and a half tourists will gaze this year upon a pile of stones at the heart of what was once one of Europe's finest cities.

For coachloads of mainly Western German visitors to Dresden — the rising star of former East Germany — it is a pilgrimage to witness the painstaking rebirth of a city once known as "the Florence of the North".

The charred and blackened stone fragments are all that remains of the once magnificent Frauenkirche, the 18th-century Protestant Church of Our Lady built during the German Romantic movement over a period of 19 years.

After the war, the Communists allowed the rubble to remain where it had fallen as a reminder of the horrors that visited this city on the night of February 13, 1945, when RAF Bomber Command hit Dresden first with high explosives and then with incendiary bombs. They lit the terrifying firestorm that killed up to 130,000 people, many of whom were refugees who had fled from the advancing Russian army. The raids also destroyed Europe's finest baroque city, with its domes, spires, art and porcelain, leaving little more than the charred façades.

Five years on from the fall of the Iron Curtain, the city is rebuilding the Frauenkirche with the aim that the 310ft-high dome, commissioned by the Saxon ruler, Augustus the Strong, stand proud above the city in time for its 800th birthday in 2006. Already much of the rubble has been sorted, identified and stacked in row upon row of wooden racks awaiting re-use.

Remarkably, given the scale of the destruction in Dresden, the city skyline is today much as it was depicted by Bernardo Bellotto during his 18th-century adoration of the city on the Elbe. This is thanks to the painstaking repair and reconstruction of the principal buildings, first by the Communists and latterly with the help of Western money.

The completion of the Frauenkirche will form the missing piece in the jigsaw that makes up the famous view depicted by Bellotto from the right bank of the Elbe.

Bellotto, known as the Dresden Canaletto as he was the nephew of the more famous Venetian, left Venice to spend 20 years as a painter to the Saxon court. He painted Dresden's skyline, street scenes and riverscapes.

Today, 14 Bellottos form part of the priceless collection which has been reassembled in the Old Masters gallery at the Zwinger. This is a remarkable "palace" originally conceived as an orangery by Augustus the Strong in the 18th century, and only completed late last century. Its galleries surround a quadrangle with fountains.

Besides the Bellottos, the museum contains a fine collection of Flemish and other Masters, including works by Rembrandt, Vermeer, the "other" Canaletto and, in pride of place, Raphael's Sistine Madonna, whose cherubs have adorned chocolate boxes over the centuries.

A walk past the restored castle, beneath a mural depicting the glories of the Saxony of old and towards the ruins of the Frauenkirche, takes you to the Albertinum, the home of the New Masters collection, with various works by the German Romantics and French Impressionists.

Later material includes Otto Dix's daunting depictions of war on the Western Front and the remnants of work by the early 20th-century Die Brücke group, which was purged by Hitler for its "decadence".

Central Dresden has much more to occupy the art lover, not least the extraordinary Green Vault, with its collection of priceless jewels.

I crossed the river by ferry and walked in the grounds of Pillnitz Palace, a remarkable "chateau" in the Japanese style, built beneath the vineyards that climb the steep south-facing banks of the Elbe. Also worth exploring are the wonderful 19th-century villas on the north side of the river, reached from the city by funicular railway.

There is little in Dresden today to betray the long years spent under communism. The people may not all have embraced capitalism with enthusiasm as jobs in traditional industries have evaporated, but capitalism has certainly embraced them.

Department stores are busy and the cranes that dominate the skyline demonstrate the business confidence that has kept Dresden's unemployment below 11 per cent — far lower than elsewhere in the former East.

Visiting the city — particularly the wide faceless boulevards that hastily replaced the acres of destruction after the war — can be a chastening experience, but the ongoing reconstruction of Dresden's finest buildings has put the city firmly back on the list of Europe's cultural landmarks.

STAN ABBOTT

Fact File

☐ Lufthansa (0345 737747) flies daily except Saturdays from Heathrow, via Stuttgart. Fares from £164.

☐ Mercure Newa Dresden (00 49 351 4814182), with rooms from £50, is conveniently placed on the edge of the city centre.

☐ Dresden tourist information (00 49 351 336 1259).

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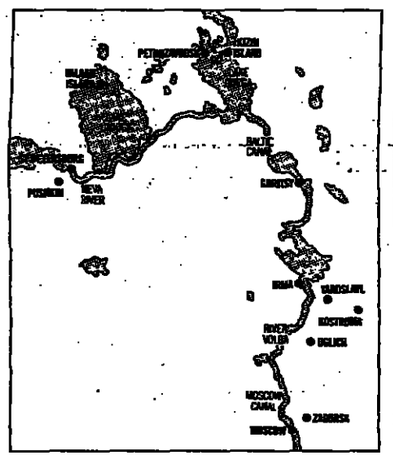
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DAY 1 Fly London Heathrow to St Petersburg and drive to the vessel moored on the Neva River.

DAY 2 Morning drive around St Petersburg, seeing many of its imperial and aristocratic palaces including the great baroque complex of Smolny Convent and Institute, and the Hermitage Museum. Optional afternoon visit to the Peter and Paul Fortress Cathedral and the great church of St Isaac. Evening musical performance.

DAY 3 A morning visit to Pushkin (Tsarskoe Selo), the great Rococo Palace built for the Empress Elizabeth by Rastrelli. Later visit the Palace of Pavlosk, which was designed by the Scottish architect Charles Cameron. In the afternoon see part of the magnificent collection of European Art in the Hermitage, founded by Catherine the Great. Sail in the evening.

DAY 4 Morning at leisure for independent sightseeing and shopping in St Petersburg. Sail at noon.

DAY 5 Morning arrival at the Island of Kizhi in Lake Onega. Visit the imposing 22-domed Church of The Transfiguration, a marvel of 18th century Russian wooden architecture. Also see some restored 18th century buildings – farmhouses, sauna, saw-windmill and water mill.

DAY 6 Petrozavodsk. Here a visit will be made to the Art Museum, an excellent bookshop and the local market where hand-knitted and crochet work is of the finest traditional quality.

DAY 7 Continue along the Baltic canal and White Lake to the town of Goritsy. Visit the Kirill-Beloserk Monastery.



DAY 8 Irma Much of today will be spent cruising with a short stop at the interesting village of Irma.

DAY 9 Today we visit the historic Yaroslavl, a well-preserved 'Golden Ring' city. In the centre of the city, see the lovely church of Elijst, the frescoes on the walls and vaulting inside the church which are magnificent.

DAY 10 Kostroma is one of the loveliest cities of the Golden Ring. Visit the 14th century Ipatyevsky Monastery, now a museum.

DAY 11 Approaching the town of Uglich along the Volga, one is suddenly confronted with a delightful view of the Church of St John and the Cathedral of the Resurrection, its blue cupolas dotted with golden stars making a magical sight. Short afternoon visit to Bely Gorodock.

DAY 12 Moscow Cruising through Moscow canal and a series of locks en route to Moscow. Arrive in the evening and moor for a 3 night stay.

DAY 13 Visit the Kremlin to see the Cathedrals of Annunciation, the Assumption and the Archangel Michael and the fine collection of imperial regalia arms and carriages in the Armoury Museum. Optional theatre visit.

DAY 14 Drive to Zagorsk, seat of the Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Monastery Complex of the Trinity of St Sergius.

DAY 15 Sightseeing programme included until departure to London.

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WORD MAGIC

Answers from page 27

ACCIPITRAL

(c) Of the nature of a falcon or hawk, rapacious, keen-sighted, from the Latin *accipiter* a hawk. "That Hawthorne's eye was sometimes accipitral we can readily believe."

ATRAMENTOUS

(a) Inky, ink-like, black as ink, from the Latin *atramentum* blacking ink, *atrare* to blacken. "Snails send out their Eyes like atramentous spots, fixed at the end of their Horns."

BRAD

(c) A thin flattish nail of the same thickness throughout, but tapering in width, having a small lip on one edge, instead of a head. A variant of *brod*, which in its more general sense has retained the older form. "Brads or spikes, sometimes made nearly a foot in length for the shipwright's or builder's use."

BABBART

(a) An old appellation for the hare, origin unknown, perhaps from a dialect of *bob*. "The steal-away, the momelart, The evil imet, the babbart." c. 1300.

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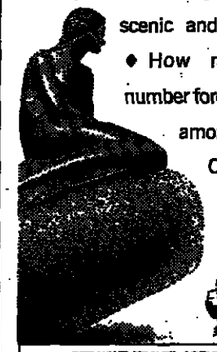
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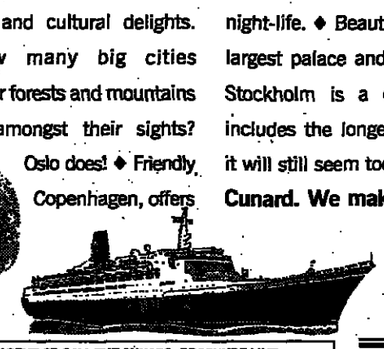
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SUMMER CONCERTS: **Robin Neillands** discovers music in some of the most unlikely places

Glad rags opera in the pig barn

There are times when I think that the English are mad, and other times when I am sure of it. The second feeling overcomes me when I encounter one of those English creations where enthusiasm seems to have overcome reason. Take, for example, David Ealand's rural opera.

Once a month, in the unlikely setting of a former pig farm in the Chilterns, Mr Ealand hosts an opera evening. To get there, you turn off the road by the Thames at Hambleden, drive up a winding lane towards the crest of a hill (second gear stuff this), swerve into the farmyard, and there you are, all togged out in a smart frock or dinner jacket, ready for three hours of opera, with dinner during the interval.

Despite the unusual setting, there is nothing amateur about Mr Ealand's "Music at Luxters" evenings. The singers have performed at Glyndebourne, or Covent Garden or with the English National Opera, and Richard Baker is the patron. Chefs prepare the food, accommodation can be arranged in nearby hotels and, as Mr Ealand's Old Luxters pig farm is now a successful private vineyard, there is plenty of English wine.

The musical evenings take place in a barn: a carefully restored, well-lit and heated barn, but a barn nevertheless, holding 140 people.

The evenings are wildly successful: scores of people seem willing to get into their glad rags and spend an evening on an old pig farm in the Chiltern woods listening to opera. Only the English would do such a thing, and I have discovered that people are doing it all over the country.

One of the leading organisers of rural opera is English Heritage, which is hosting a country-wide series of opera evenings this summer as its contribution to the 1995 "Festival of Art and Culture".

Rural opera usually offers the popular stuff, and English Heritage has plumped for two certain crowd-pullers, *Tosca* and *The Magic Flute*. These will be sung in historic settings as far apart as Battle Abbey in Sussex, Kenilworth Castle in Warwickshire and Belsay Hall in Northumberland.

The list of unorthodox venues continues. Charles II hid in the oak tree at Boscobel in Shropshire when fleeing from the Roundheads, so Boscobel will be the setting for a weekend featuring "The Music of the Cavaliers and Roundheads". Goodrich Castle, near Hereford, offers "Music with Archery".

So it goes on throughout the summer, with the musical selection growing ever wider, and wilder. The Roman site at Corbridge in Northumbria is not the first place you might think of for an evening featuring "Music of the Andes", performed by a sextet from Cusco in Peru, but why not? Those who hesitate to attend may be tempted by a pre-concert glass of Peruvian wine.

Those with a low culture threshold will be glad to know that the offerings are not confined to high art. At Old Luxters this month, Mr Ealand is presenting "Un Bistro Parisien", with food and music to match, followed in June by "A Night on Broadway", with songs from the Broadway shows, and in July with "Wave the Flag", perfect for those people who cannot get tickets for the BBC's *Last Night of the Proms*.

Meanwhile, in the Old Priory at Much Wenlock, Shropshire, This, That and The Other Theatre Group is offering "Hisses, Kisses and Misses", a weekend of Victorian melodrama of "virulent villainy, naughty niceties and dashing ditties". This event, and many others throughout the country, is part of a year-round "Music that brings History Alive" programme offered by English Heritage.

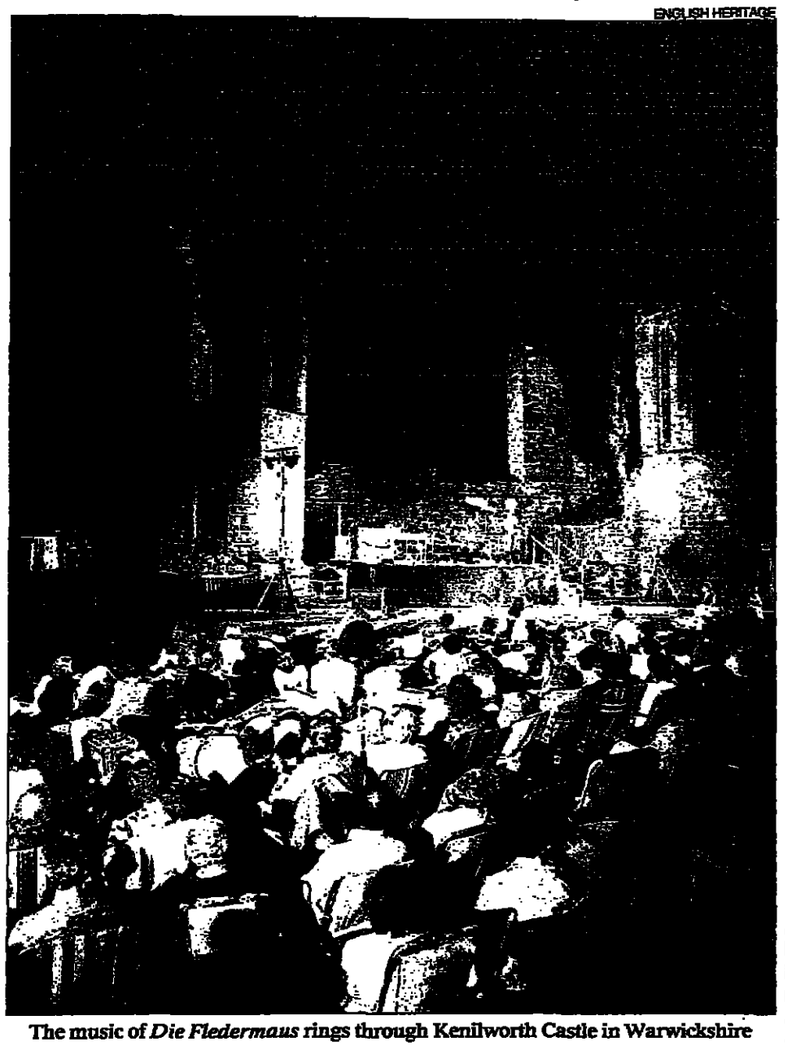
For a sweetly scented evening, the Royal National Rose Society is running a music and drama series at Chiswell Green, St Albans, Hertfordshire, starting on June 16, with Terry Lightfoot and his band. Visitors can picnic among the roses in the 12-acre garden.

National Trust Events has a full summer programme, too. Richard Stilgoe will host the NT Family Concert at Igtham Mote, Kent, on July 16, featuring the "1812 Overture", with cannon fire provided by the audience bursting paper bags.

National Music Day is on June 24 and 25; yes, that is two days, because last year's Day was so successful, with more than 1,000 events large and small, that two days are needed this year to fit in everything.

National Music Day is for everyone who enjoys live music, and anyone can take part. Among the more unusual events last year was a barbershop quartet which sang to a crowd of climbers on the top of Snowdon; the Prison Band of Dartmoor, which went on a "Behind the Bars" tour of other prisons; and a man from Derby who offered to play any caller a selection from his collection of television test card music. Don't laugh; lots of people watch the test cards and he had scores of calls.

The sound of music can be heard all over Britain, in locations ranging from the Roman Wall and ruined castles to village halls and former pig farms. If the music is right and the enthusiasm is there, the weather and setting hardly matter, but it may help to be British, or just a little bit mad.



ENGLISH HERITAGE

The music of *Die Fledermaus* rings through Kenilworth Castle in Warwickshire



The converted pig barn opera hall at Hambleden

Opera and concert notes

☐ For details of the "Music at Luxters" monthly opera evenings, call David Ealand, Old Luxters Farmhouse, Hambleden, near Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 6JW (01491 638330). £40 per head, including dinner.

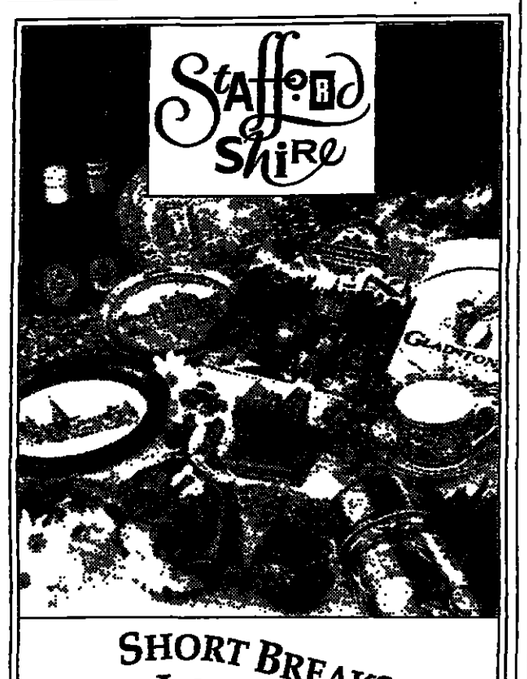
☐ For information about the Royal National Rose Society's music and drama series, contact RNRC, Chiswell Green, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL2 3NR (01727 850461).

☐ For details of open-air concerts and operas organised by English Heritage call 0171-973 3427. Tickets can be obtained from Ticketmaster on the English Heritage concert line, 0171-413 1443. Open-air operas £20 (concessions £16), concerts £7 upwards.

☐ A free brochure on all the nationwide events in the 1995 Festival of Art and Culture can be obtained from the festival organisers on 0839 001995. Calls cost 39p a minute cheap rate; 49p at other times.

☐ Anyone interested in taking part in National Music Day can get details from National Music Day 1995, PO Box 2BZ, London W1A 2BZ (0171-629 8912). Registration fee £5.

☐ A list of National Trust Events can be obtained from Maggie White, Scotney Castle, Lamberhurst, Kent (01892 891001). Ticket prices range from £10-£14.



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Gardens to visit

☐ **Highwood Ash, Highwood Hill, Mill Hill, London NW7 (0181-959 1183).**

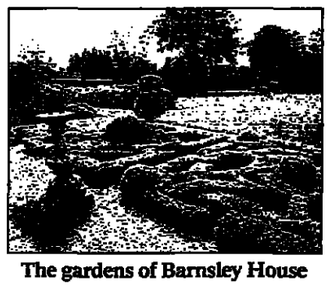
Open today and tomorrow, 2-6pm. £1, children 50p.

The garden of more than three acres presents a fine varied scene with formal areas designed by Percy Cane close to the house. Rhododendrons and azaleas grow in grassy surroundings, along with individual trees, such as fine hornbeam, swamp cypress and parrotia, which give spectacular autumn colour. In 1987, a round upper pond with a waterfall was added, dropping into a lower lake of half an acre. Large herbaceous and shrub borders flank impressive lawn, overlooked by the house, and the beds in the formal rose garden, enclosed by yew hedges, are divided by paved paths. One of the most rewarding areas is the lower lawn, reached via steps from the rose garden, where a summer house at one end commands views across the lawn to a venerable cedar, up to the herbaceous border and down to the lake.

☐ **Barnsley House, Barnsley, near Cirencester, Gloucestershire (01285 740281).**

Four miles northwest of Cirencester. Barnsley Festival, today and tomorrow (01285 740382 for details). Gardens open all year Mon, Wed, Thur and Sat, 10am-6pm. £2, children free (free Dec-Feb).

This weekend, Rosemary Verey's renowned garden will be a highlight of the village festival. The four-acre garden is an education in planting and the busy integration of design into a relatively limited area. The walk of pleached limes into the laburnum tunnel will be at its best, as will the selection of ornamental trees at one end of the side lawn. An absorbing array of early flowering herbaceous plants will be coming out in the various borders, and visitors should take in the skill with which plants are arranged for combinations of shape and texture as well as leaf and flower. In the ornamental kitchen garden, rows of new growth will be up in the pattern of beds divided by paths and box hedging. Here, the trained and arched fruit trees are in blossom. Also open this weekend is Barnsley Park, a wonderful early 18th-century house overlooking gardens on three sides linking to the parkland beyond a ha-ha.



The gardens of Barnsley House

☐ **Wallington, Cambo, Northumberland (01670 74283)**

Twelve miles west of Morpeth off A696, signed on B6342. Open April-Sept daily 10am-7pm; Oct, daily 10am-6pm; Nov-Mar, daily 10pm-4pm (dusk if earlier). £2.30, children £1.15.

Wallington is a gem that has avoided National Trust fussiness since it was bequeathed by the Trevelyan family. The original 18th-century work was partly restored and extended after 1886 by Sir George Trevelyan. Capability Brown was born in the next-door village of Kirkharle, but was not responsible for the landscaped park. On both sides of the house, 18th-century woodland gardens (the new leaf is just emerging) retain their basic pattern of paths and ponds. Overlooking the pond is the classical Portico House. The main surprise at Wallington is the sloping walled garden beyond the Portico House and its pond. It is curiously uneven and long in shape, with a terrace extending along the top side against whose boundary wall fine Edwardian glasshouses have been restored. Paths divide the numerous borders, replanted by the Trust around features such as a fountain pool and curving flight of steps.

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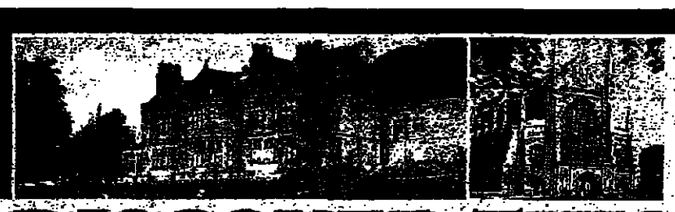
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LONG WEEKENDS: **Jill Crawshaw** on Icelandic thrills, exploring Rome, shopping in Palma, and more

Breaks to add to the shortlist



MARK CARWARDINE

With patience and luck, enthusiasts can spend their Icelandic holiday watching and filming whales, dolphins and porpoises swimming among the icebergs

WILDLIFE IN WATER

WATCHING dolphins off Gibraltar and Iceland, and swimming with whales near Tenerife are among the wildlife breaks offered by Discover the World. No staged performance this — schools of up to 100 common dolphins perform in the wild on the two-night Gibraltar Dolphin Watch. It costs £313 to £353 for adults, with seven hours at sea on a 30ft catamaran, flights, two nights' B&B and a tour of The Rock. The dolphins often come close enough to touch and, on some trips, their Striped and Bottlenose brothers can be spotted as well.

It is thrills galore on a three-night Icelandic break, with a boat trip among the icebergs, whales, dolphins and porpoises. You go out with lobster fishermen, and have a snowmobile safari over Europe's largest glacier. It costs £681 from London, £655 from Glasgow, with flights, accommodation, excursions and most meals included.

Five hundred pilot whales have been seen off Tenerife and, with luck, enthusiasts should be able to swim with the 15ft gentle giants on a four-night weekend; £521 covers flights, self-catering accommodation and daily trips.

● *Discover the World, 29 Nork Way, Banstead, Surrey SM7 1PB (01737 218801).*

MAJORCA SAMPLER

A FEW days in Majorca should convince doubters to come back for much more. Its underrated capital, Palma, can rival any in the Mediterranean for holiday ingredients with its sophisticated shopping and eating, good hotels and shady *ramblas*, secretive cloisters and the third largest cathedral in Spain, reflecting the island's rich history.

Unicorn Holidays, with a programme of weekend and short breaks to the island, offers three nights B&B at the five-star Hotel Son Vida above the Bay of Palma, with indoor and outdoor pools, tennis court, health club and a 20 per cent discount on any golf course on the island. The price is £454 to £566, including flights and car hire.

At the opposite, and exclusive, end of Majorca, breaks at the five-star Hotel Formentor, of which Edward G. Robinson said, "You'll find more Oscars here than in Hollywood", cost £399 to £551 and, even now, many guests never stray from its secluded gardens and beach.

High up in the beautiful mountainous part of the coast at Deyá, you can have a three-night break at the Residencia, a converted 16th-century mansion, from £472 to £524; sea bathing is by courtesy bus down to the rocky coves.

● *Unicorn Holidays, 2 Place Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8SB (01582 834400).*

RURAL HIDEAWAYS

THERE are attractive hideaways in rural France for three-night fly/drive weekends from Inntravel. A break in Moissac, for example, the tiniest of hilltop villages in Provence, is an excuse to explore one of Europe's greatest natural freaks, the Grand Canyon of Verdon. You can kayak through it, walk along it, join a raft party at Moustiers, or drive the 100-mile circuit. The views and drops alternate grandeur with terror.

The Hotel Calalou is relaxed rather than luxurious, with local-style cooking, a pool and tennis court. It is a good base for other Provençal towns such as Aups or Tourtour. The half-board break, which includes car hire, costs £439 to £471 with flights to Marseilles, two hours' drive from Moissac. Extra nights cost £85.

Other similar fly/drive weekends to two and three-star *auberges* and converted 15th-century mills in Najac, Collioure, and the Dordogne, Tarn and Lot, cost £299 to £395.

● *Inntravel, Hovingham, York YO6 4JZ (01653 628811).*

MIDDLE EAST PROMISE

PEACE in the Middle East (or a sort of peace) has inspired a surge of tourist interest in the region; a specialist, Jasmin Tours, offers several short breaks.

While controlling tourism carefully, the Sultanate of Oman is slowly opening up for visitors. A three-night B&B trip with British Airways costs £553 in May, £521 in June, with flying time about eight hours. With only half that time in the air, a similar break to Beirut, once again vying to become the Paris of the Middle East, costs £399. A longer, five-night stay in Damascus (four and half hours) — which would make excursions to Palmyra and Krak des Chevaliers possible — costs £448, also B&B.

In a new Asia Savers programme Premier Holidays offers five nights in Dubai (six and a half hours), a top holiday choice incidentally among travel agents, costing £495 to £538 (no meals). This little Emirate deserves much more than use as a mere stopover on Far East routes. It has exceptional duty-free airport shopping and gold souk. One of the pre-bookable trips from Premier includes a Dune Roller Desert Driving course (£134) in a four-wheel-drive Land Cruiser.

● *Jamsin Tours, High Street, Cookham, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 9SQ (01628 531121). Premier Holidays, Westbrook, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1YG (01223 516677).*

CITY CULTURE

TIME Off, the city specialist, and Prospect Tours, the art specialist, have joined forces to produce a Cultural Cities programme, a series of short city visits, accompanied by experts, but with time for individual exploration.

The painter Hans Memling vividly depicts the domestic life of the Bruges of his day which, architecturally at least, has changed little; this is one of the subjects covered in the three-night Bruges visit costing £295 with travel by Eurostar, three nights' B&B and two half-day tours with the specialist and museum entries included.

Walking tours of the Old Town and a visit to the Castle District are included in a similar three-night break to Prague. Their weekend to Reykjavik (£495) has visits to the National Museum and the Museum of Fine Art, the Althing, believed to be the oldest existing Parliament in the world, plus an excursion to the Gullfoss waterfall and the Geysir area.

Other cities in the programme are Paris, Brussels, Nice, Madrid, Barcelona, Seville, Stockholm and Zurich. Groups are never larger than 20.

● *Cultural Cities, 454-458 Chiswick High Road, London W4 5TT (0181-995 2163).*

POSH PADS

THERE are some glossy self-catering apartments available for short breaks in Venice, Rome and Paris from International Chapters, which could give holidaymakers an excuse to plunder the markets and delicatessens and enjoy a brief experience of what it's like to live in these cities. Most properties are centrally situated.

A pied-à-terre sleeping three, for example, at Place Wagram, Paris, with daily maid service, costs £296 (per property) for three nights, without travel, though there is some private parking for those who want to take their own car.

A couple looking for a room with a view in Venice might choose Salute II, a ground-floor apartment on the Canale della Giudecca, a *vaporetto* stop from San Marco, (£285 for three nights).

Among the flats in Rome, the "Copella" between the Pantheon and the Piazza Navona, overlooking a square and an open market and furnished with antiques, costs £457, for two people (for three nights), excluding travel. Four-night breaks and longer holidays are also available.

● *International Chapters, 102 St John's Wood Terrace, London NW8 6PL (0171-722 0722).*

FOR ALL POCKETS

WITH its outdoor attractions as well as excellent shopping, theatre and eating, Toronto is proving a popular spring and summer short break destination for Cresta Holidays, which offers three nights for £408 until July, £517 during July and £558 in August, with B&B hotel accommodation and flights. It is also possible to fit in a trip to Niagara Falls on a day excursion costing £41.50.

At a more modest price, Cresta has introduced a two-in-one deal for self-drive breaks across the Channel. Anyone booking a mini-break using Sally Ferries before the end of June receives a voucher for a free second crossing for car and up to five passengers for a day trip or short break between October 1, 1995 and March 31, 1996.

The short-breaks brochure (call 0161-926 9999) features hotels in Northern France, Paris, Belgium and Holland. Ideal for hypermarché addicts, the cheapest one-night break staying in Arras, Boulogne, Calais, Lille or St Omer until July costs £82 to £95 per person with two sharing, with, of course, more restocking to come in the winter.

● *Cresta Short Breaks, Tabley Court, Victoria Street, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 1EZ (0161-926 9999).*

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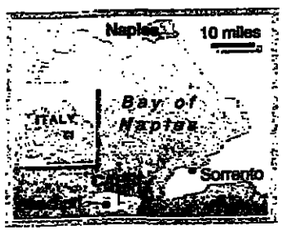
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ISLANDS: Capri and Lanzarote are worlds apart in scenery but each has its particular magnetism

The rock garden of Tiberius



Getting there

☐ Instyle (01784 240392) organises British Airways flights to Naples from £139. The Naples to Capri hydrofoil costs £7. Hotels in Capri range from luxury Quisisana (from £135 per person per night) to the modest Florida (£55 per person half-board).

The isle of Capri, in the Bay of Naples, has exerted a fascination over visitors for centuries. Roman villas were built over Greek temples; Saracens, Turks and sundry corsairs scaled its cliffs and terrorised its inhabitants; Spain, France and Britain held it at various times, and celebrated families (Onassis, Kennedy, Bismarck) and the well-known (D.H. Lawrence, Gracie Fields, Lenin, Maxim Gorki) have lived there. Its fascination, despite the swamping by tourists, persists.

Capri is physically remarkable. Saddleback in shape, the sheer, south-facing limestone cliffs tower nearly 2,000ft. Trees sprout in impossible places. Caves and grottoes, niches, rock arches and stacks abound. In the Blue Grotto, improbably claimed to have been used by the Roman emperor Tiberius as a swimming-pool reached by a tunnel, boatmen haul on a chain to swing their craft under the tiny entrance arch into a cavern of luminous blue water. Years ago a boy used to dive into the water to retrieve coins thrown by tourists, and his body merging with the blueness suggested to one awe-struck Edwardian visitor deliverance into the afterlife.

Capri is only about four miles long by one and a half miles wide but, because its profile is so dramatic and its roller-coaster slopes so impressive, its extent seems much larger. The whole island is formed of limestone, the rock turned up on end by a series of geological movements. Many of its wild flowers, which stud the high ground, are unique. Large bees track between the flowerheads. A blue lizard is said to have made its home there. The flora, though altered by the introduction of pine trees all over the island, can be seen in more pristine state where it tumbles down rock gullies.

REX FEATURES



Pathways on Capri lead to beautiful coves and rock formations

Anacapri, the part on the high cliff lionised by the Swedish physician Axel Munthe in his autobiography *The Story of San Michele*, is cut off from its ancient enemies on the part called Capri by a precipice. To service this eyrie community, about 900 steps were cut into the cliff.

During the three years the British controlled Capri (starting 1806), the captain of the Anacapri garrison rode up to his headquarters on a frisky Arab horse, a stomach-churning challenge to anyone who has seen the stairway.

Most places and products in Capri are named after Tiberius, whose reputation as a misanthrope and child-throttler persists, despite being derived from dubious sources. Such a lurid label has more tourist appeal than if he had been a wise but dull recluse. Nevertheless, it is extraordinary to consider that by messages bounced from watchtowers Tiberius controlled the far-off seat of empire for 11 years. Even the cheapest local wine is named Tiberio, and good value at £2 a bottle. For those wanting denser experiences there is a whisky mysteriously called "Old England" at £4.

The town of Capri, in the east of the island, would have an even more spectacular setting were it not for the "cementification" of the houses that have grown around it.

What redeems the island from its proliferation of villas, some of which project from the rock face on buttresses, is the intermingling of gardens. Capresi are vigorous horticulturists and tend their gardens early and late: wherever there is a level patch of earth, fruit and vegetables flourish; where there is not, terracing is created. The result is huge quantities of lemons, figs, grapes, cherries, onions, tomatoes, prunes, melons and olives. Indeed the fragrance of the island's lemon groves wafts across to winding walkways and pretty piazzas.

Although the advancement of villas is growing to keep pace with the demands of organised tourism, it is not tasteless development. Painted white, many villas are given gravitas by Roman colonnades, urns and statuary, and crawled over by convolvulus; a scene that during the day bounces with a dazzling light. At night, candlelit Madonnas glow in niches on the walkway corners.

Capri is rich with history. Churches, passageways, watchtowers, fortresses and unstudied ruins serving forgotten purposes dot the landscape. As the sun sets on your evening stroll, you realise with a shiver that you are walking along routes devised and trodden by Roman soldiers.

MICHAEL WIGAN

Land of fire mountains

César Manrique has gone, and the people of Lanzarote, in the Canaries archipelago, are anxiously hoping that the developers will be kept at bay. The restraint which the painter, sculptor, architect, ecologist, town planner and curator of this small island exerted is holding, but only just.

While living on earnings from his private commissions, Manrique devoted himself to Lanzarote and stamped his personality on the landscape. It is thanks to him that the main part of the island's development is of a traditional, low-rise nature; the buildings painted white, with blue (for fishermen) and green (for farmers) paintwork on the doors and window frames.

Manrique was also responsible for a number of artistic additions to the island's landscape. The beautiful Los Jameos del Agua on the northeast coast is a fine example; he took a natural volcanic cave, added water, plants and a minimum of non-intrusive buildings to create a an impressive tourist attraction.

See, too, his cactus gardens in Guatiza, and at the restaurant at the Timanfaya National Park. Above all, visit his former home, the Fundación Cesar Manrique in Taro de Tahiche, which was built into an old lava flow, volcanic "bubbles" becoming rooms and living areas. The property houses Manrique's private collection of his art and work.

Manrique was killed in a car accident three years ago at the age of 73, and the island is trying to hold on to his ideas and ideals.

To experience the real Lanzarote, hire a car, preferably a four-wheel drive (some roads are constructed of bulldozed lava flow), and head north — for two good reasons.

First, it is as far away from the tourist areas of Puerto del Carmen and Playa Blanca as you can get (though both towns are well-developed and clean with plenty of good bars and restaurants). Second, the best food that the island can offer is fish, and to taste it you must take a trip to a fishing village, such as Arrieta on the northeast coast. At Arrieta, make your way to the Bar Restaurant Miguel, a low, white building where, from the long tables with benches, there are fine views over the seafront.



Ask what is the catch of the day: *cherne* is found only locally and, like many of the fish from this area, is a spiky-looking object, deep in the body, and served in substantial portions with a variety of delicious sauces. *Vieja* ("old woman") is a tasty carp-like fish, cooked in its skin and served simply with oil and vinegar. *Cabrilla, pescadilla* (whiting), and *sama* (red brace) are excellent, too.

All these dishes will be accompanied by another island speciality, *papas arrugadas* ("grandfather's potatoes"), which are small and cooked unpeeled in salt water, then eaten with their wrinkly skins.

Lanzarote produces a good selection of wines, and the local restaurants ensure that the house wine is of excellent quality. Watch out for *Ron con meli* (rum with honey), which is delicious, but very strong.

Coffee is served espresso, or with a little milk (*café cortado*), or with a lot of milk (*café con leche*). You will probably be offered the choice of cow's milk or condensed.

Back in the car, head southwest through Guatiza, take the hilly road to Teguise and then travel on to the Parque Nacional de Timanfaya. As national parks go, this one is different; mile after mile of twisted and tortured lava, punctuated by conical volcanoes called "fire mountains", which look as if they are only sleeping.

It was only 250 years ago that Lanzarote experienced the tumult that created this region and, just a few inches below ground level, the rocks are too hot to touch. Even now, the whole area has an air of expectation.

Walking in this area is at best uncomfortable, but if you wish to venture into the fringes of the park there are camels to take you on a short trip. These are not a recent addition to the island, but descendants of working farm animals.

If you keep the hire car for a week you will have time to drive on every road on the island.

Forgo the sunbeds of the south and follow the example of the locals, who head for the northeast coast, where the unspoilt beaches are covered in a fine white Saharan sand brought in on the winds from Africa. Here the children build "sand" castles of black lava stones, and whole families enjoy barbecues and parties.

You may not see all the sights of Lanzarote in a week, but you will leave with the urge to return and explore more of this fascinating island.

SARAH COLE



Lanzarote's volcanic landscape

● *The author was a guest of Co-op Travelcare, PO Box 53, New Century House, Manchester M60 4ES (0161-827 5289), which offers one week in Lanzarote, self-catering, from £209 per person, based on two sharing; a 4-star hotel with B&B for two costs £349 per person. Seven day holidays for £160 are avilable during May. A Suzuki 4wd hire vehicle costs £235 for a week; larger vehicles, such as the Isuzu Trooper, costs £270.*

●*Further details from the Spanish National Tourist Board, 57 St James Street, London SW1A (0171-499 0901).*

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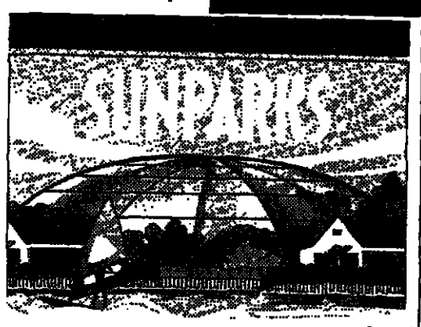
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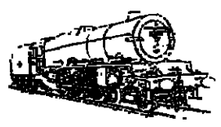
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LADIES

A Brunette, petite, pretty, warm, caring and intelligent, diverse interests seeks slimmish tallish useful gentleman 55/65 for happy hand-holding. S.W. London/Surrey. Box No 6291

AFFECTIONATE, adaptable, supportive lady of 52, slim, 5ft tall, n/s but not anti-smoking wishes to make a home with an older, wiser, solvent gentleman of 56-75 who requires a loyal, intelligent companion without intellectual pretention. Location is not important but address ensures reply. Box No 6306.

AIMING to convert from single to dual system to increase interest rate. Excellent technical database continually upgraded. Required package for successful and talented operator. Saged 40-55. Apply: Box No 6077.

A LADY who does not believe that leaving it to chance will deliver the goods. Tall, dark, attractive fun-loving 50's. Interests from flying and scuba diving to theatre and cookery. Public School/University WLTM gentleman of similar age and background to share good things of life. Box No 6227

ALLURING, vivacious, independent Persian princess who wants to make you feel like a king. If you are masculine, spontaneous, romantic, educated, fun-loving and adventurous, young 36-46, in need of a sincere relationship. Surrey/London area. Please reply to box 6297.

ALONE tonight? Are you a professional, caring man, 50-60+ who dreams of a lovely blue-eyed, blonde, elegant, ethereal lady to share cultural sight-seeing in European cities, warm nights in exotic locations and simple, treasured occasions tomorrow and forever. Let's paint the town red! Please Reply to Box No 6027.

AMERICAN Div. W Fem. prof gentle woman. 45, longs to find unashamed romantic who is musical, theatrical and passionate yet capable of organization. I am looking for a well educated hopeless academic with a silly streak who wouldn't ordinarily read these ads, for real love. Photo please. Box No 5810

APHRODITE seeks Greek God, 44+. Bath area. Photo and phone number please. Reply to Box No 6145.

A pretty prof 48 slim 5'6", warm, tactile, fun, n/s seeks slim & Arts loving male 48-58. Photo. SW Herts/N.London. Box 5567

ARE you self-assured, warm, witty, well-educated and financially independent? In you late 40s and London-based? Do you enjoy the theatre, eating out, current affairs, sports, travel and occasional country weekends? Businesswoman, 42, media background, would like to meet like-minded man, reasonable looking but personality more important for long-term involvement. Box 6219.

ARE you male, n/s, 30-50 yrs and ready to share your life with someone? If so, this special slim & attractive female, who has "everything but the boy", would love to hear from you. Midlands/London. Please reply with photo to Box No 6198.

ARE you male 50/60 reasonably attractive, enjoy walks, concerts, gardens, homecooking seeking love companionship? This warm caring female WLTM you. SW London/ anywhere. Please reply Box 6199

ARE you looking for an energetic, fun-loving, 5'2", fair, slim, late 50s soul mate - to share country walks, theatre, good cooking, bridge, holidays? Oxford to Winchester area. Box No 5975.

ARTIST teacher, 36 yrs attractive woman. Kind, intelligent, sensitive, aware, seeks loving man with vision. Sherborne/ Exeter areas. Box No 5974.

ATTRACTION is in beholder's eye, sexuality between our ears. Chemistry compassion a sense of absurdity more important than glitzy life-style. Similarity in age useful for mutuality as 21C dawns. Are you mid/late 50's 5'8"+ Lon/Surrey? I am blonde med. slim and refuse to be put in a box except for.... Box No 5892

ATTRACTIVE intelligent, professional woman, 40, N/S, SE London, lover of all types of music, good food, theatre, walks in the country and quiet nights at home. Seeking unattached, interesting man, 30-50 to share fun and the good things in life. Please write - recent photo appreciated. Box 6123

ATTRACTIVE brunette female, early 30s. Loves countryside, horseriding, animals, fine food/wine/entertaining, architecture, the arts, world travel, scuba diving. Seeks well spoken, educated, travelled, successful kind man, 30-45 for long term relationship. Please Reply Box 6218.

ATTRACTIVE, amusing linguist early 40s, internationally travelled would love to meet tall handsome man of like age /mind to share her joie de vivre for ever. Midlands based but willing to emigrate, especially to France. Photo app. Box 6141

ATTRACTIVE, curvy, young at heart 48 yr old based in Berks who enjoys Skiing, travel and the countryside, seeks like minded unattached male with GSOH to enhance her life. Photo please Box No 5991.

ATTRACTIVE lady 32 slim sincere tactile, 2 children seeks man 32-40 vivacious fun loving with GSOH for lasting relationship. Photo appreciated, will return (Herts, London/Home Counties). Reply to Box 5996

ATTRACTIVE vivacious, professional lady, 34, with GSOH, seeks professional gentleman 30-45 to show her there's more to life than work. Photo appreciated. London/Home Counties. Please Reply to Box No 6090.

ATTRACTIVE elegant sophisticated long-haired brunette lady, 5'7", early 40's seeking someone special to share the good things in life. London/Surrey /Berks. Reply with photo & phone no.to Box No 5968

ATTRACTIVE stylish lady WLTM tall handsome outgoing professional gentleman 40's with GSOH for sincere relationship Croydon/Surrounding Area. Recent photo (full details essential). Plse Reply Box 6299

ATTRACTIVE continental lady early 50's seeks n/s active professional gentleman to rediscover love and companionship, 5'10"+, 53-63. Kent/S.East London area. Box No 6811

ATTRACTIVE, tall, slim, professional female (42) W.L.T.M. similar male 36-50 with G.S.O.H. to help me laugh again. North West England/ Scotland. Box No 5966.

ATTRACTIVE slim, classy blonde, 5'8", late 40s seeks tallish, professional, elegant man, 50-60 for love and laughter. Photo please. Lincs/Norfolk borders. Box No 6228.

A WARM Scottish professional lady, 47, living in London: loves skiing, natural history, the arts, seeks a kind hearted, good natured man for "moonlight, music, love and romance". Please Reply to Box No 5998.

BEAUTY with brains! stunningly attractive late 20's elegant well travelled lady seeks affluent gentleman 25-50 with means and time for mutual pampering. PT mum to two gorgeous boys. Midlands based. Photo ensures reply. Box No 6239

BEDS. Lady graduate, 52, 5'2", not slim or rich. Divorced, child aged 12. Interests reading, gardening, theatre, countryside walks. Seeks local man 56-60, not tall, free for outings and friendship. Must like children and not be racist. Please Reply to Box No 6270.

BELGRAVIA belle, blonde, beautiful 47, own boss, constantly travelling seeks, stong, successful man with similar rich and varied lifestyle. Walking distance Sloane Street. Box 6339.

BIRMINGHAM based happy stylish blonde, 40s, professional, tall slim very attractive, n/s WLTM tall optimistic caring discerning and successful man (47-55). Please Reply with recent photo to Box No 6096

BRIGHTON based attractive prof French lady 29, Virgo seeks caring prof gentleman who likes travelling, skiing, country walking and evenings in/out for romance and sincere relationship. Photo ess. Box No 6139

BRUNETTE attractive businesswoman, would like to socialise with genuine successful gentleman 37-53. Likes dining, horse-racing, nice cars, theatre, etc (not all at the same time!). Photo appreciated. East Anglia region, London areas. Box No 6257.

BUCKS/Berks based attractive, slim, cultured, prof, n/s lady seeks graduate fun-loving gentleman 35-45 with GSOH for sincere relationship. Reply with photo if poss to Box No 6083.

BUSY Midlands Head, attractive, vivacious seeks a little fun and lots of TLC with 45-55ish man Please Reply to Box No 5778

CARING and sincere, travelled, professional lady, early 50s, tall, slim, lively, who loves music, art, outdoors, seeks compatible gentleman to share life's ordinary moments & perhaps discover some extraordinary ones. East Anglia. Photo. Please Reply to Box No 6177.

CHEERFUL professional Mum in east Kent, mid 40s, craves caring chap for congenial company and conversation. Please Reply to Box No 6326.

CHINESE graduate lady, mid 30s, 5'5, slim, attractive, good sense of humour, seeks educated caring gentleman for long term relationship. Please reply to Box No 5929.

CITY prof attractive tall slim young lady sks slm sgl gent 29-38 only, Surrey. Box No 6206

CLASSIC early 1960's model. Immaculate condition. Exceptional design quality. Light paintwork, dark trim. Motors around Worcs. Glos. Cotswolds available for longer distances. To be cherished by discriminating collector of similar vintage. Specifications: Box No 6075.

CONGENIAL company to enjoy upmarket hols/breaks /cruises - perhaps country walks, theatre, etc with slim, 5'6", educated, mid-blonde lady. Required hopefully are GSOH/n/s - over 5'9", presentable, easy going, educated, age 55-65 yrs. Details & photo appreciated. Ladies also welcome for friendship. London /anywhere. Box No 6082

COUNTRY Gentleman (Surrey) 45, 5'11" unattached handsome and wealthy seeks soulmate with GSOH, honesty and loyalty who likes country pursuits the arts good food and conversation to settle down with and possibly start a family. Please Reply to Box No 5926

COUNTRY living/loving but no bumpkin. Tall prof. lady 50's taking early retirement soon seeks emotionally financially free gentleman (probably brogues tweeds occasional D.J. type) to start whole new happy life pref. in S. Scotland or N. England. Box No6200.

DAMSEL approaching distress seeks knight in shining armour (I will supply charger!). Ms - slim, blonde, 30's, attractive, country-loving, intelligent. You - similar attributes but hair colour optional. Genuine replies only (no frog princes). Within travelling distance Hants. Please reply to Box No 6121

DARK, ambiguous beauty, late 20s, literate, seeks a wonderful man. London area. Please Reply to Box No 6244.

DEFINITELY Different stylish older woman (49!) still with beauty, brains and bucks, suddenly adrift, seeks physically aware, upmarket, single gentleman, preferably graduate 45-55 London & Beyond. Box 5997

DUMFRIESSHIRE based lady Surgeon, 36, tall, slim, redheaded, vivacious, WLTM handsome, tall professional man 36-48 yrs. Interests include cars, travel, music, wining and dining. A photograph would be much appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6050

EDINBURGH Strikingly attractive woman; long dark hair, dark eyes. Grad who is prof. employed Seeks intelligent, resourceful handsome man over 40 years Box No 5900

ELEGANT, feminine lady with GSOH, seeks sincere, caring, intelligent, strong minded man, 45-55 for laughter and love. London/H.Counties Box No 6324

EMPTY Raincoat, empty arms? Change-battered and facing Third Age unpartnered? Attractive London woman, youthful 50s, similar experiences, no ties, seeks optimistic man, over-50 but not over the hill, for better tomorrows. Box No 6002

EXTREMELY attractive elegant and educated American woman based in London. Slim, petite brunette who is warm and fun! Comfortable in city or country (jeans or Chanel). Mid 40s. WLTM worldly businessman or professional who is kind, refined, witty, and a gentleman of integrity. For dinner, theatre, walks, picnics, travel and friendship+. Please write with photo to Box No 6156

FELINE Film Producer(39) with gorgeous garret near Sloane Square seeks amusing unattached gentleman of means. Intellect and stamina 35-45. Box No 5999

FETCHINGLY pretty, 35, single, slim, fit, warm, vivacious, well-educated/travelled. Loves tennis, riding, country/cultural pursuits and the good things in life. Seeks an exceptional man: chivalrous, accomplished, witty with (mostly...) honourable intentions! London area. Please Reply to Box No 6144.

FRENCH speaking gentleman (not necessarily a French man) sought by 49 yr. old Pocket Venus living in Cheshire. She needs to improve her French by conversation over dinner, during theatre intermissions, on country walks, by telephone etc., sufficient to negotiate for purchase of dream home in Corsica. Photo & full details please to Box No 6180.

GABRIEL no reply from France, from old Box 4454 please write again Box No 6016 Pls Pls Pls!

HELP! Leggy blonde in distress, new to Gloucestershire with no escort, sophisticated prof., funny & warm-hearted, happy in little black dress or wellies, horse/dog owner, early 40s, n/s. Photo please, toyboys acceptable. OAPs not. Box 6248

IF life's a movie, where's the leading man? Casting now, opposite slim, pretty 40+ lady. Script not finalised - ideas? Letters and recent photo to Box 5949.

INDEPENDENT professional 44 year old lady, London based, seeks intelligent gentleman for friendship. Recent photo appreciated. Please Reply Box 6237.

INTELLIGENT, attractive, professional thirty-something lady with GSOH seeks tall man (N/S, 35-45), with similar attributes, to help make it a fun summer. Photo appreciated (but not essential: being a nice guy is!). N. London/Herts/Cambs pref. Please Reply to Box No 6201.

INTELLIGENT very attractive slim lady, 42, looking for open minded entrepeneur/ businessman, sincere, honest, 40s to share life and family. Letters, photos please. London area. Please Reply to Box No 5933.

LOVELY lively lady, '40s, seeks male, not too serious, bridge partner. London Box No 6058.

IRREVERENT, intelligent, sentient, good-looking, divorced, politically incorrect, ready to shift to interdependence, somewhat anglicised, continental woman living in London with heaps of casual flair. Interested in original thought, empathy, authenticity, aesthetics, comfort & joy (disinterested in pets, pubs, wining and dining for the sake of it) seeks solo man 55+ with presence, spark who is erudite, stable, tall, sufficiently mature to sneer at games people play & unafraid to aim for intimacy not exclusively physical. Lean figure, full head of hair not at all essential. Box No 6251

LAUGHTER & romance needed by fun-loving, fit, lady, 50, with "little tier". Enjoys sport. Own business. Cotswolds. Caring, romantic gentleman, pleeeese write to Box No 6311

LEGGY attractive professional lady age 36, loves country pursuits and Bryan Ferry, seeks similar intelligent witty man aged between 36 and 45. West Midlands/Worcestershire area. Please Reply to Box No 5958.

LIVELY petite, professional, early '50s, London weekdays, Warwickshire w/ends, seeks amusing, intelligent n/s man to share her enthusiasm for the arts and for the countryside. Please Reply to Box No 6276.

LONDON & Kent based, creative but pragmatic businesswoman. I'm an attractive, stylish, green-eyed blonde in 40's, happily divorced with no ties, wishing to meet an affluent, entrepreneurial male of similar age (to early 50's) for friendship & enjoyment of life. Interests include socialising, entertaining, gardening, countryside, interior design, architecture & antiques. Like-minded? Please reply with photo & tel no's to Box No 6322.

LONDON Lecturer 45 sees chronic waste when consulting mirror seeks lively articulate adventurous gentleman to ski, sail, scuba and travel and to hibernate and contemplate. Photo app. Reply to Box 6062

LONDON lawyer, pretty, witty, occasionally Jewish seeks successful, caring man 43-60. Please Reply to Box No 6268.

LONG legged grey eyed Surrey blonde, just 40 just right, caring and charismatic, stylish and spontaneous, seeks successful man who is self aware and sensitive, pragmatic and positive, to share summer fruits. Please Reply to Box No 5988.

LOVELY American lady in USA. 39, 5'7" of English lineage, seeks well educated gentleman for relationship /marriage in England. Reply to Box No 6261

LUSCIOUSLY large, lively lady (L yrs) longs for longterm relationship with lustful lover living in London area. Box No 6210.

MAD about Mozart and Monet: Degas and Dolcelatte?! Tall, slim, young 43 yr old; articulate, attractive, independent professional woman, seeks similar interesting and very intelligent n/s male to share love of opera, art, music and country walks. London, S/E. Please Reply to Box No 6081.

MEET attractive, sexy women at London singles' parties. MEET 'N' EAT 0171 629 6634

ME: Unmarried, lovely, lively, fit and active oriental lady (39), n/s, well-travelled, cultured, varied interests, Kent Based. You: Kind, loving, sophisticated, cosmopolitan, n/s professional, marriageable, family-minded, 40-48, over 5ft 8in. with own home and car. Photo please (returnable). Box 6274

MUSIC-LOVING female graduate - rather special - early 50's, divorced, attractively slender, gentle, caring and sensitive: seeks similar male. Photo &/or Avon area a bonus! Please Reply to Box No 6205.

NEW to Berks and WLTM a warm witty interesting guy 45+ to share new adventures abroad, and lots of laughs at home on my Thames balcony Own ladder desirable, but not essential. No Right Wingers or trainspotters, please. Smokers welcome - now there's a novelty! Please reply Box No 5989

NORTH West business lady, early 40s with young outlook, tall, slim, attractive, fun-loving, varied interests, W.L.T.M. man late 30s early 40s to share the nice things in life. Please write enclosing photo to Box No 6078.

NOTTM 40's girl, pale but interesting, fun not fragile. WLTM tall dark prof male. Please Reply to Box No 6131

NURSING Night deck floosie, 29, seeks her captain 27-36. Loves red wine & pasta, country walks and hiking. Pool - swimming and playing (only if I can win). V.G.S.O.H. a must. Please Reply to Box No 6032.

ODDBALL rose from traditional potting shed. Tall, professional, 2 chicks nearly flown. Camb/Suffolk. WLTM similar male 45-60, many interests, bridge etc. Box No 6004.

OPTIMISTIC romantic, attractive, creative, sensitive, warm woman, loves arts, travel, stimulating conversation, writing, dancing, exploring, gardening, harmony, 52-amazing! Excited by life? Photo if poss. Box 6039

POOR but proud, intelligent classy lady, seeks, tall well groomed mannered spoken n/s affluent knight 28-46 for meaningful relationship. ALA. Photo, phone no. Box 6060.

OVER 50!! Gentlemen in the Midlands looking for stylish and sophisticated women Elite Introductions' special offer for 14 days, we have over 290 ladies waiting to meet you, call for appt 0121 386 3444

PART Time position offered in London Area to tall, Athletic and very caring man 38-45 with good sense of fun, for tall, slim, pretty, fit, enchanting and loving female with a view hopefully, to full time employment. Photo appreciated. Box 6203.

PROFESSIONAL Writer late 30s, attractive slightly scatty Mum to 3 kids, knows you can't always write happy endings but it's fun to try. Seeks someone appreciative of friendship, humour & curiosity about the world & enjoys arts, tennis. Photo pref W.London Box 6118

PROFESSIONAL haute cuisine cook, slim and hungry for right man. 5'10"+, 35-55, guarantees to get your taste buds going if you can share country pursuits, my great dane and me. Photo appreciated. Box 6033.

PROFESSIONAL, well travelled lady, 32, active, loves outdoor life. - cycling, wind surfing, riding, dogs, barbecues, dinner parties, hates discos and large crowds seeks successful guy, 32-40, Surrey. Box No 6302

SENSATIONAL stunning, sophisticated creature (ex-air hostess, ex-model turned academic), 38, seeks affluent, articulate hedonist as play-mate, companion, friend. London/Heathrow. Letter and photo please to Box No 6255.

SHABBY, but clean shaven non smoking intellectual widower (50-55) sought by pretty cultured non smoking widow (50). East Anglia. Box No 6009.

SLIM solvent and attractive professional working mum (38) who embraces life with passion, humour and a kind heart and has many and varied interests (esp sports and arts) seeks sensitive man with similar attributes and views (38-46) with whom to relax, love and enjoy life. Pref based London/South East but open to persuasion. Please Reply to Box No 5976.

SPATCH-Cocked pheasant devised by R. Williams. Stocking clad "game bird" in Surrey would like to swap her recipe with chef in Wiltshire who wrote with his menu "food fit for the Gods". You gave incorrect contact number but if you would like to cater to the needs of this enticing dish, then meet your fate by either giving correct number, address in which to send an invite. Box No 5889.

STRIKINGLY attractive slim brunette 35 with heart full of love to share seeks gentleman 45-50 with an international perspective who has a broad view of life. Photo app. Box No 5765

STUNNING sporty blonde prof lady 30 seeks genuine outgoing tall, sincere gentleman up to 42 with GSOH to share cultured interests incl. countryside and travel view to long-term relationship. London /Home Counties. Photo please to Box 6048

STYLISH, intelligent woman, 43. I think I am slim, attractive with a warm, perceptive character and GSOH. I am interested in opera, the arts, tennis, entertaining, gardening, animals, reading and in meeting a man of goodwill. 40-55, tallish, nice-looking with intelligence, charm, wit, kindness and reasonably successful life style. London. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6079.

SUCCESSFUL, professional, attractive, elegant lady, just 40 seeks unattached, solvent, attractive intelligent man for good times and who knows? Philanderers and teachers need not apply Photo appreciated. Londonish. Reply Box No 6301

SUPER London grandma enjoys travel, arts, watching sport, wants equally super grandpa with whom to share interests and complete life. Box No 6126

TITIAN haired, witty and creative London woman with a passion for opera, mid-30's, 5'8", successful and solvent, into theatre, wine bars, tennis, skiing, golf and watching sport, seeks like-minded male for conversation, laughter and love. Please Reply to Box No 6208

VERY good-looking tall brunette 27 wanting to meet tall attractive seriously rich man 30-43 who's searching for that special woman to share everything with. Photo essential. London area. Plse reply Box No 6202

WANTED country loving gentleman 40-52+ for obnoxious 7 yr old & wild large dog. If you have children all the better. Reply to Worn Out 34 yr old in need of much looking after. Box No 6036

WARM, funny, intelligent, lovely, sociable, refreshing, mischievous, SOH. Loves: Polo, racing, riding, shooting, walks, labradors, theatre, opera & summer calendar events. WLTM likewise male. Please Reply to Box No 6178.

WELSH widow 55 pretty but poor requires 'Man at Arms' to fight lifes battles on her behalf. London/East Anglia. Box 6051

WERE you educated at a top Public School, aged 65-75, solvent. If so contact me. I'm widowed, attractive mid 60's slim elegant Pub Sch and wish to meet people from a similar social background London/ surrounding counties. Box No 6181

WOULD you like a weekend in the Conway Valley? Lady (68) with comfy home and 2 acres will welcome gent for walking, bird watching, pubbing. Please Reply to Box No 6028.

WOULD gentleman, 40-50yrs, tallish, like to join lady plus labrador on walks. With countryside (and possibly more). Both dog and lady have excellent pedigrees, are fit, sleek, attractive, intelligent, good natured, dark haired and have big brown eyes. Antiques, good food and wine appreciated. Genuine replies please, to a genuine lady. Box 6303

YES, Yes. Yes! When Harry met Sally relationship required. Tall, attractive, honest 30-45 yrs gentlemen please write with photo to 30s bubbly blonde (Berks). Box No 6112

GAY lady beautiful feminine 36 5'11 seeks up-market feminine lady 32-38, Knightsbridge. Discreet. Photo pls. Box 6196.

GENTLEMEN

ABSOLUTE bargain - Romantic, witty gentleman, 30, tall, successful, reliable and handsome. WLTM near perfect, beautiful younger independent female (blue eyes, blonde hair and a Cabriolet guarantees fast reply!) Berks/Bucks/Oxon or anywhere. Phone no & photo essential. Please Reply to Box 5963.

ABSOLUTELY fabulous woman who likes garlic, Scotsmen, France, sought by cheerful, solvent author. 'Outstanding' says S.Times. Box No 6108

ACTIVE male, professional, late twenties, 5'11" Beds based, good looking with varied interests including rugby, sky/diving and watersports. I enjoy the finer things in life including good food, wine, clothes and would consider myself romantic. I WLTM a very feminine, attractive, professional lady of a similar age who would enjoy being pampered and spoilt. If this is you please send a recent photo to guarantee reply. Please Reply to Box No 5964.

ADVENTUROUS female (26+) sought by appealing Englishman (28) for tropical carry-on in Belize. Survival skills should include wit + style. Affinity for desert island a plus. Man eaters welcome, sorry no leeches or fruit bats. Box No 6280.

AIRLINE Pilot, attractive, good laugh, seeks slim, 30s Co-Pilot for happy landings. London & SE. Photo plse. Box No 5994

ANGLO—IRISH graduate (more Anglo than Irish), unpretentious an reputedly humorous and charming(!), returning to Ireland to restore and live in historic Queen Anne country house and arboretum in "the garden of Ireland" near Dublin, invites an attractive enthusiastic financially independent n/s lady around 50 to share the adventure and romance of a lifetime, creating a beautiful home in lovely grounds and opening them to the public, involving some hard work, a lot of fun and hopefully much love. Strong sense of humour a must. Please write to Box No 6107. All letters answered.

ARE you attractive, slim, well educated, aged 36 to 48 and full of zest for life? If so, this 56 year old (looks years younger!) fit, successful, cultured company director, francophile, skier, globetrotter, would love to meet you to share future travels and hopefully romance and much more. London based and West Country w/e, but would travel any distance for the right person. Will you be that special lady? Box 6175.

ARE you an attractive lady living in or near South West, in her 40s who is independent and enjoys life but who knows that without a relationship, there is something missing. I am a successful, tall, professional young 50s with many interests who enjoys dining in and out and being outdoors. I am sincere, caring and affectionate and looking for someone to love. Please send photo. Box No 6330.

ATTRACTIVE articulate businessman, 58, 6ft, grey hair, slim, fit, n/a, widower, very much missing a woman to share life with, seeks good looking, loving female to be my partner and best friend. Must have elegance and intellect with GSOH. My interests are music (ex professional musician), theatre, cinema, dining out, travel and photography. West Country based (Bristol area) but would travel for the right woman. Letter with photo will guarantee reply. Box No 6253.

ATTRACTIVE successful 6' n/s professional, seeks good looking witty lady 28-35, based London. Sailing, skiing, walking and travel interests a plus. Please Reply to Box No 6169 with photo and phone number.

ATTRACTIVE-ISH young fifties West Country businessman 5'8" blond n/s GSOH varied interests WLTM slim, elegant, genuine lady 38+. Photo appreciated. Please Reply Box 6215

ATTRACTIVE 6ft. dark, slim, affluent, R.C.A. grad 48, super home, Riviera apt seeks lovely 30's female for Cote D'Azur holiday & more Box 5770

ATTRACTIVE articulate man, 30s, literate, seeks dark bohemian beauty. Please Reply to Box No 6332.

A VERY happy successful businessman, 39, 6ft, good looking, easy going, unpretentious, wide interests, S.E. based, WLTM slim, attractive, happy, successful younger female. Photo and phone please. Box No 6005.

GAY Oriental grad., 29, 5'6", attractive, discreet, with GSOH, seeks tall, active, v.masculine man (38-58) for genuine f'ship & affection. London/SE. Eng. Photo apprec. Box No 6183.

GENTLEMEN

BACHELOR (recycled) some assets (allegedly charming, witty and solvent at last audit) but some liabilities (bald, bossy and boozy) seeks lady, 38-47, short, slender for fun, friendship and the future. London based. Box No 6170.

BUSY, witty, well-travelled, caring professional, 32, n/s, WLTM warm, attractive prof. lady to share outings, laughs and influence the future. Latin American/S. European affinities/roots maybe a plus. S.East/London. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box 5995

CHRISTIAN Widower, 67, fit, active, healthy, financially sound, university educated WLTM a continental widow 60+ (perhaps Hungarian or Czech) attractive, with a definite religious disposition, (Catholic or Protestant). Photo essential. Reply Box No 6266

CITY Director, 30s, slim, athletic, unpretentious, considerate, supportive, loyal and honest, with legendary S.O.H. and own charger. W.L.T.M. undistressed damsel with good S.O.H. and figure to match to share the victories and set backs. (No dragons too small). Exchange photos. A.L.A. Box No 6336.

COSMOPOLITAN gentl. British, semi retire. 55, 5'6". Interests travel literature (poetry) reading music walk nature, live in London. Seeks attractive, romantic lady to share life with a lot of love. London or near Plse Reply with photo Box 6119

DOCTOR (Over-worked G.P. in London) - young fit 50 - single, caring, good-natured, sincere, many interests, quite good-looking, 5'7" seeks kind, genuine and attractive lady with an outgoing personality in her thirties for genuine friendship and marriage. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 6089.

DOMINANT creative and very successful male (6'3", blonde, blue eyes, slim, fit, late thirties) seeks shy heroine (beauty an absolute, brains desirable, age immaterial) willing to share the delights and the dangers of a voyage of sensual discovery. Photo essential. Box No 5961.

DO you like to laugh? I do! I am also independent, slim, 54-6ft+. Australian and almost always on holiday. If you want a partner, adventure and lots of fun in your life why don't we laugh together. Please write with recent photo to Box No 6000.

DROP dead gorgeous blonde career girl wanted, mid 30s who would like to meet cultured professional near London based man who is interested in foreign films, far away places and is living a sophisticated urban lifestyle and is very successful and wealthy. Photo appreciated. Box No 5958.

EASY—going Surrey writer (51) prefers congenial surroundings to money, self-sufficiency to rat-race - seeks attractive better half. 30/40, share rural idyll, children welcome. All this and heaven too? Can even play tennis! Photo essential please. to Box No 5969.

EASY GOING, amiable guy, 28, handsome, well-travelled and educated, seeks fun-loving, attractive female, 20-35 for laughter and romance. Photo ensures reply. London/Home Counties. Box No 6236.

ENGLISH ROGUE WLTM fun-loving girl, any nationality, Highly presentable, brill SOH and incurably romantic. Not very demanding - all you need to be is mid 30s or less and charming. ALA. Exchange photos. Box No 6140.

ESSEX professional man, 42, 6ft, good looking, young in spirit and appearance. Enjoys theatre, cinema, dining out, concerts etc. Enjoys travel and is much travelled WLTM caring younger woman to share interests and reawaken life. Children not a problem. Please Reply to Box No 6086

ESTABLISHED 51 yr old businessman W.L.T.M. very attractive, slim, 36-45 female for lifes enjoyment and possible romance. Recent photo will be returned. Merseyside area. Chemistry is what counts! Please Reply to Box No 6319.

EXTREMELY eligible London based professional 45, n/s with everything going for him but someone special to care for. W.L.T.M. a positive outgoing and challenging damsel, probably 30-45 to share whatever suits. Letter with photo assures reply. Box No 6110.

FED up with Toyboys? Good-looking prof man, 48, genuine, no hang ups or ties, GSOH would love to show attractive lady 28-38 what she's missing. London /Surrey Photo (if poss) + tel no to Box No 5923

FIT & sporty attractive male, well educated & caring 5'7", 32, WLTM attractive, affectionate fun loving lady for togetherness & fun. Photo please. Bristol & surrounding areas. Please Reply to Box No 6264

FLYING golfing gent: tall, good looking & youthful 48 with no ties, seeks vivacious 30s lady (not 1930s) to adore & be adored by. Laughter essential. Photograph please. London/ Home Counties. Box No 6314.

MALE 34, seeks Berks/Hants/Surrey lady, to give his last Rolo to. Please Reply to Box No 6061.

GLOS based, tall, prof. male (34) into rugby, theatre, countryside, ski-ing, conversation seeks attractive n.s. lady, 24-34 for friendship and laughter. Photo appreciated. Box 5915.

FRANCE Ret'd Englishman living alone, except dog, in South of France seeks congenial female companion to share house & expenses. He is a very active (hyper?) 70+. Own village house in heart of wine country Not isolated i.e. 2 mins motorway, 3 mins rail (TGV), 10 mins sea, 30 mins int. airport, 60 mins Spain. House has 3 beds, sunny terraces, modern kitchen, 2 baths, satellite TV, phone, Fax, computer etc. & vast garage. He has expensive tastes but modest income. Interests inc travel, wine & food, cinema, TV, poker, shares, champagne. She would probably be retd 55+ prof with no ties, similar or compatible interests, tolerance and sense of humour, sun-lover, driver and hopefully with reasonable French and/or Spanish. Please reply to Box No 5993.

GENTLE, understanding, cuddly, slightly humorous, quite fit, tall, clean, tidy, NS, independent, & available fellow seeks a mature woman (say 40ish to 60ish) as a best friend: with whom to have a lasting, intense, loving, relationship; to join together in an intellectual, cultural, passionate & hilarious life style. London based but ready & willing to go anywhere & do anything with the right partner. I shall honour your confidence & respond. Please reply to Box No 6122.

GLOS Male, own business, 39, no ties, artistic and caring, likes sport, nature & culture, seeks similar lady, children, pets welcome. A.L.A. Box No 6312

GOOD LOOKING, well built, slim, fit, 6ft, educated, fun, caring, interesting young 1955 vintage male, VGSOH, South South East Area seeks slim, professional single lady around 1965 vintage with view to lasting relationship. Recent photo please. All replies answered. Reply to Box No 6008

GOOD LOOKING well educated very successful generous businessman aged 42, enjoys wining, dining, theatre and travel seeks very good looking lady who is not too career minded for fun, friendship and good times. Photo and telephone number appreciated. Please Reply to Box 6006

GOOD—LOOKING 6ft athletic slim 40s, GSOH, Surrey based, gent seeks fit independent, attractive lady, 30-40 for fun times. Food and wine lover. Photo please. Box No 6151.

GUYS GALORE, short of girls and a party imminent. We girls: attractive, 30's, Public School, prof careers, London homes. You too? Call Patricia 0181 392 9009 Wknds/eves

HANDSOME, intelligent and well-educated Surrey-based consultant who is caring, sensitive, successful, would like to meet refined, well educated, independent, very attractive, slim lady who has a discerning interest in the Arts and a positive outlook on life. I'm legally separated with own home and business. I'm a n/s 68 year old creative, positive thinker with GSOH. An informative letter with recent photograph will ensure reply. Box No 6126.

HAPPY easy going Aquarian, fit, n/s, young 42, likes cinema, cooking, opera, socialising & long country walks seeks professional lady. Photo ensures reply. Please Reply Box 6333

INDEPENDENT male, 50, 5'11", slim, recently single, looking for articulate n/s slim lady approx 30-45 yrs - to share variety of interests in London and country. If your normal hesitancy would preclude answering such an ad - please reply! Box No 6954

INDEPENDENT prof man late thirties non smoker medium build WLTM lady with interest in sport, cinema, dining, days out. N.West/Wales. Please Reply to Box No 6262

I shall never complain about being buried in Gloucestershire again. I am now buried in letters. Thanks to all the ladies that replied to Box 5191 and I apologise if you have heard nothing (I warned you I was a failure).

IT could be perfect again. Highly eligible Oxford graduate, widowed, old enough to be your father, offers all, inc. deep, lasting love, to intelligent, shy Establishment girl. Travel. Wimbledon, theatre, village life. Cautious - telephoning first. Please Reply to Box No 6331.

LESLEY (Guildford postmark, 20 March, two children), thankyou for your letter (Box 4849, 18 & 25 March). A telephone number would be appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 6185.

LONDON based s/employed businessman late 30's GSOH broad minded healthy n/s caring & sensitive many interests & no ties, WLTM lady 28-45 to share fun/romance & finer pleasures of life. Tel no. & recent photo guarantees reply. Box No 5980

MAHLER lover, professional male, 35, seeks non smoking, attractive, well educated lady to share all the good things in life, not just music. In addition to being stylish, sexy and spontaneous she will be a romantic with her feet on the ground and a good sense of humour. Please reply with photo to Box No 6304.

MANCHESTER Chester, North West: Professional man seeks a broadly religious female companion, aged 30 +. Box 5957

MAN 50s Cambridge educated (said to be interesting, generous, outrageous) seeks woman with thatched cottage & artistic interests for away-days, discretion assured. South. Box No 6147

PROFESSOR of law, 61 yrs, 181 cm, divorced, would like to love and protect passionate, slim lady for ever. Photo apprec. Please Reply to Box No 6300.

GENTLEMEN

MARRIAGE/family minded, traditional values male, single, intelligent, slim, successful, dependable, considerate, GSOH; interests: the arts/ travel, seeks dark-haired, slim, intelligent female. Photo appreciated. Box No 6273.

NORTH-WEST 50s+, 6', good-looking, fit, n/s, still enjoys sport, likes wining, dining, travel etc. After 2 yrs in the doldrums seeks tallish, fair, classy lady to accompany on trade outings & much more - for long term relationship. Photo guarantees reply & return. Please Reply to Box No 6271

NOTTINGHAM 34 yr old single male, nearly qualified lawyer, not too serious, who enjoys walking, music, cinema, the arts and good food would like to share interests with like minded female. Please reply, preferably with photo, to Box No 6197.

PROFESSIONAL Man offers loving, lasting, exciting and magical relationship to an attractive and sensuous lady, ideally under 40 who would also appreciate his central London home and his unique profession. Box No 6080

ROMANTIC good-looking lonely caring young 69 widower GSOH WLTM attractive 60-65 widow for friendship holidays love romance. Classical music food, wine, travel, non smoker. Wiltshire. Photo would help. ALA. Plse reply Box No 6309

SELF-MADE failure - no car, no house, no wife, wishes to meet the lady with everything - except perhaps a handsome partner. 49, 6'2" Christian, n/s with a career, many interests, no ties and a legendary sense of humour. London, Surrey, Hants. Photo please. Box 6044

SINCERE honest male, 34, seeks bright non smoking 30s woman to share country walks, pub lunches and life's usual pleasures. Surrey/London. Please Reply to Box No 5986.

SURREY based company director, 34, 6'8, blonde, blue eyes. Enjoys fast cars, slow food and the finer things in life. You should be 25-34, n/s & attractive. Photo appreciated but not essential. However the ability to watch (drive?!) a Porsche on a cold racetrack essential. Please reply to Box No 6265.

TACTILE successful single handsome 44 yr senior exec. looking for a very feminine, very smart, attractive, elegant, slim, n/s, older lady 50+ for relationship. London area. Photo please. Reply to Box No 6045.

TALL, dark, slim, mid 30s, London city based solicitor seeks warm, attractive woman (who's more interested in children and animals than fashion and career) in her early 30s. Letter and photo guarantees confidential reply. Box 6269.

UNIVERSITY lecturer, 38, slim, attractive, seeks v. attractive genuine caring Christian Lady 25-35 for love & marriage? Photo & phone plse box 6106.

WILTS/Dorset borders. Caring, honest, divorced, personable, male. Young 46, slim, dark, own business, OHAC. WLTM, slim, attractive, N/S lady 35 - 50 for LTR. Photo appr. Please Reply to Box No 6296.

28 year old chap (but feeling older!), own professional practice, tendency to overwork, 6', sharp sense of humour, reasonable looks. WLTM similar lady in 20s/30s to share meals out, country walks, theatre, weekends away and lazy Sundays. Initially friendship/light romance but developing into whatever. Area not important but I'm on the South Coast. Please Reply to Box No 6117.

44 year old retired businessman seeks warm, tall, self-sufficient lady to travel Europe end of May. Please Reply to Box 6026.

YOU: really sincere, extremely bright, soft and curvy, beautiful, worldly-wise, courageous, warm. Me: affectionate, handsome, good-hearted, 6'1", blue-jeaned, 36, busy, self-determined, solvent, all or nothing, occasionally childish. Us: intimate, loving partnership. Phone number preferred. Box No 6046.

ACTIVE male W.L.T.M. sixty plus male for sun & walk hols Home Abroad. Herefs. area. Please Reply to Box No 6085.

GAY A singular man, young thirties and 6ft plus. Good legs and mind to boot. Seeks a gentleman, 40-55, tall, well-built, educated, civilised and interesting. Photo please. Box No 6168.

GAY Cotswolds based professional, 39, honest and discreet, good looking, loves equestrian, music, country life, antiques and sport, wishes to meet sincere friend for genuine relationship. Please Reply to Box 6017.

GAY, discreet, Oxbridge, Anglican, just 50, tall, slim 6 ft. 10½ stone, professional gentleman, with interests in art, history, and living in Sussex. Am I too late to be seeking that special person, a friend to enjoy the next two or more decades with? Write in confidence and with the assurance of complete discretion. I am young at heart, and indeed look forty or less, not that that matters. Companionship and good company is that all that I seek. Please Reply to Box No 6127.

GENTLEMAN early 50's slim friendly, discreet, racing travel and gardens interests - wants to meet another n/s active, outgoing man 40-60's to share racecourse trips and home visits - Anglia. Plse Rply to Box 5916

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My mother is beautiful with a great sense of humour, she loves life to the full and would like to share her time with someone special. If you are 50+, non-smoker, please reply, you won't regret it I promise.
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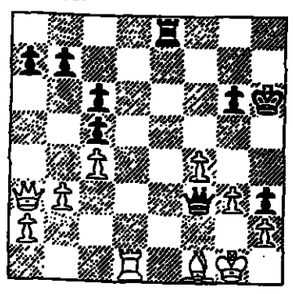
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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

IT IS extraordinary just how dangerous a humble pawn can be when it is pushed towards the vicinity of the opposing king. All sorts of mating nets and promotional possibilities are conjured up by its presence.

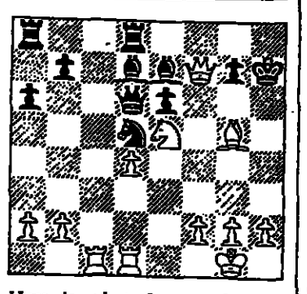
A case in point was the following position from the game Foukakis-Moor, European Under-18 Championship, 1994, which I published as a Winning Move on February 17. Black has sacrificed a piece to lure the white queen away from the defence of the king. What is now the best way for Black to continue?



Solution: 1 ... Re2! and if 2 Bxe2 Qg2 is mate. Otherwise, 2 ... Rg2+ will be decisive. Less accurate is 1 ... Qxd1 when 2 Qxc5 allows White to struggle on.

Michael Macdonald-Cooper of Kirriemuir points out that in the event of White not capturing the rook with his second move, for example, 1 ... Re2 2 Qc1 Qf2+ 3 Kh1 Qxh2 mate is the quickest conclusion. However, in the event of 1 ... Re2 2 Qxc5, Black must play 2 ... Rg2+ as the f2-square is now protected by the white queen, rendering 2 ... Qf2+ useless.

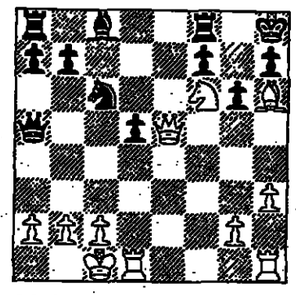
If you have sacrificed a piece for an attack it is vital to play the moves in the most accurate order. In this position from the game Kosten-Maillfert, France 1993, which I published on March 6, White has sacrificed a piece and can draw by perpetual check with his queen. However, he found something better.



Here is what the grandmaster played: 1 Rd3! Bxg5 2 Rh3+ Bh6 3 Rxh6+! Kxh6 4 Qg6 checkmate.

Mr Doughty of Tring suggests that 1 Bh6 is also a solution to this problem. He gives the variations 1 ... Kxh6 2 Qg6 mate or 1 ... Rg8 2 Qg6+ Kh8 3 Nf7 mate. This is a good try, but 1 Bh6 Bf6! is difficult to crack.

Finally, when attacking it is essential to use the weapon of discovered check with great caution. On March 22 I gave this conclusion from the game Mabbs-Alexander, London, 1961. White has tremendous threats on the dark squares, particularly along the a1-h8 diagonal. Can you spot his winning combination?

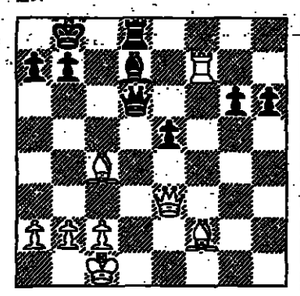


Solution: 1 Bg7+! Kxg7 2 Ne8+ Kh6 (2 ... Kg8 3 Qg7 is mate) 3 Qf4+ g5 4 Qf6+ Kh5 5 Ng7+ Kh4 6 Qf2 mate.

Mr Papworth of London NW8 wonders why 1 Nxh7+ Kxh7 2 Qg7 does not force a quicker mate. This does indeed work, but Black would prefer to capture the white queen with 1 ... Nxe5.

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Andersson - Knutsson, Sweden 1974. Although Black is a piece in arrears, he has a way to win the game immediately. Can you see how?



Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers to be drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Association publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 ... Qxh3+

Last week's winners were S R Brooks, Greensted, Ongar; J Boom, Stepney Green, London E1; A Barnes, Hackney, London E9.

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon, right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon Caption 57, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, May 17.



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"Yes, these new glands must be wonderful. I believe she used to wear a little red jacket and dance on top"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Mabel Swift of Tamworth, Staffordshire

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ACCIPITRAL
a. Receptive
b. To do with the elbow
c. Like a hawk

ATRAMENTOUS
a. Inky
b. Fearful
c. Overhanging

BRAD
a. A curve at baseball
b. To swank
c. A flat nail

BABBART
a. A hare
b. A boastful coward
c. A tidal dyke

Answers on page 21

Cyberspace Fourteen: the entries

"THE GREAT Jelly Race" is all about teamwork — and without it, you're nowhere. Of the many family racing games entered for Cyberspace Fourteen, only Neil Watters of Galashiels, Borders, revealed a true spark of originality.

In his "Great Jelly Race", up to four of you control one car. If you all turn in the right direction simultaneously then you'll successfully steer a course. But if you don't, the car splits apart and you'll waste time regrouping your car and efforts.

It's an ingenious idea which would be perfect if developed by Codemasters, which brought us the excellent "Micro Machines" and "Micro Machines 2". Incidentally, the latter is just out for the Sega Game Gear for one and two players, as well as the multi versions for the Sega Mega Drive and PC.

Several of you entered flights of fancy — of the feathered variety. Jake How of Haslemere, Surrey, came up with "Bird Bonanza", in which each player must complete different bird tasks in various habitats to score points. "A robin will gain more by building its nest in a hedgerow than in a tree, and by feeding its young on insects rather than peanuts," he writes.

Peter Jackson of Tatsfield, Surrey, preferred to put all his eggs in one basket with the kestrel. If you got his bird you'd be hunting and swooping on mice while avoiding human hunters. He explains: "Other missions further on could involve having to find your newborn chick lost in the city. The idea is flexible and the range of missions could be created with a steadily increasing difficulty level."

Many of you favoured the idea of combining tried and tested ideas. For example, Jason Searle of Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire, entered a video board game "incorporating elements from Trivial Pursuit and television's *The Crystal Maze*. Paul Magee of Alresford, Hampshire, came up with "a sort of interactive Trivial Pursuit and *Krypton Factor* rolled into one". Another nicer touch, bearing in mind the competition's requirement to appeal to all the family, was the idea from Martin Leigh of Twyford, Hampshire. His game, Scavenger, was the only one entered in which, as well as entering names for all the players, one also has to input relevant ages to kick in a handicap facility.

NORFOLK'S Andrew Whittle reminded us that the sweltering sunshine of late is only the tip of the iceberg. His game, Holiday From Hell, centres on that summer nightmare, the family vacation. He writes: "Each player takes on the role of a family member in the annual ritual of choosing a holiday. The game progresses through a series of scenes leading up to the holiday and also a wide range of scenes from the holiday." He added: "On designing the game it must be borne in mind that nothing should be as expected — neither the characters you meet, nor the travel arrangements, accommodation or any other facilities." Next week — who'll be picking up our Philips CD-i prizes.

TIM WAPSHOTT

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

WHEN you have a long side suit to be established and a trump position which is at all shaky, you will find that ducking an early round in the side suit often helps to keep control.

This is a simple example.

Dealer South Love all Rubber Bridge

	♠Q3 ♥K108543 ♦972 ♣104	
♠876 ♥Q9 ♦K1083 ♣KQJ2		♠1042 ♥J762 ♦Q664 ♣85
	♠AKJ95 ♥A ♦AJ ♣A9873	

S	W	N	E
1♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All pass

Contract: Four Spades by South.
Opening lead: eight of spades.

What to open with 5-5 in clubs and spades is a subject of debate. I always open One Club whatever my strength, so that I can show both my suits. But it is undoubtedly true that on weak hands opening One Spade may gain in a pre-emptive way. With a strong hand it is clear to open One Club.

The next decision in the auction was South's rebid over North's One Heart response. Many duplicate players play that a jump in a new suit on the second round guarantees a fit for the responder's suit, and on that basis Two Spades at South's second turn would set hearts as trumps.

The rubber bridge style is to use such jumps in the traditional way of setting up a game-forcing sequence. After this South rebid his spades to show his 5-5 shape, and North raised to reach the good game.

To protect his club holding, West led a spade. South won in hand, unblocked the ace of hearts, and led ace and another club. West won the jack and led a second trump. The declarer won the queen of spades, and cashed the king of hearts throwing a diamond.

However he now had to ruff a diamond back to hand to draw trumps, and when the clubs were 4-2 he did not have enough trumps to both establish and cash the fifth club. He made five tricks in spades, two in hearts, and one in each of the minors.

Better play was to duck a club after cashing the ace of hearts. Now after West has cleared the trumps the declarer can come back to hand with a club to draw the remaining trumps. He is safe provided one of the black suits breaks evenly, whereas by playing ace and another club he needed both black suits to break.

Now try the defensive problem shown at the top of the next column. You are East:

Dealer West. Love all

	♠AK4 ♥KQ7 ♦K98763 ♣5	
		♠853 ♥83 ♦Q104 ♣J8763

W	N	E	S
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT[1]
Pass	5♣[2]	Pass	6♥
All pass			

[1] Five-ace Blackwood. [2] Two "aces" (the trump king and the ace of spades) with the queen of trumps.
Contract: Six Hearts by South
Lead: king of clubs.

North's jump to Three Hearts was not entirely satisfactory with only three-card support, but his diamonds were not strong enough for Three Diamonds. South wins the opening lead of the king of clubs with the ace and plays ace, king and another diamond. On the third round both South and West discard clubs. What do you do?

Many players with some vague idea of knocking out dummy's entries would play a spade. But that really doesn't quite add up — if South has only one spade he must have at least five hearts, and so will have communication in that suit.

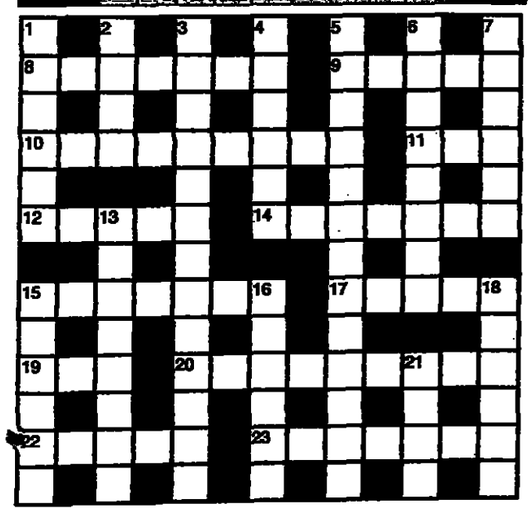
What do you make of South's discard on the third diamond? Why isn't he ruffing? It must be because his trump suit is none too robust. In that case the best defence will be to attack dummy's trumps — play a club. This was the full deal:

	♠AK4 ♥KQ7 ♦K98763 ♣5	
♠Q102 ♥10952 ♦J5 ♣KQ109		♠853 ♥83 ♦Q104 ♣J8763
	♠J976 ♥AJ64 ♦A2 ♣A42	

After dummy has ruffed the club return the declarer has to play the king of hearts and then overtake the queen of hearts with the ace to draw trumps; the 4-2 break defeats him.

Do you see the declarer's mistake? He can keep control of the hand by ducking the first round of diamonds. Now if the defence play clubs, dummy can ruff low. (The technique of making dummy ruff is often called "punching the dummy".) Then after playing off dummy's two trump honours, the declarer comes to hand with the ace of diamonds to draw trumps. And if the defence play passively after winning the first diamond, the declarer will make twelve tricks via two spade tricks, four hearts, five diamonds and one club. The ducking play makes Six Hearts nearly as good a contract as Six Diamonds.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 469

ACROSS
8 Gorge oneself (7)
9 Supposed absence from scene of crime (5)
10 Pregnant (of animal) (4,5)
11 Word of assent (3)
12 Rotating device (5)
14 Hindu god, creator of universe (7)
15 Creator of scheme (7)
17 Vapours (5)
19 Drenched (3)
20 Fit to live in (9)
22 Egg-shaped (5)
23 Dismiss; lash with foot (4,3)

DOWN
1 Dog's bark: dog (child.) (3-3)
2 Nimble (4)
3 Split-personality aspects (6,3,4)
4 Hit, astonished (6)
5 Object of derision (8,5)
6 Myth. uphill-stone-roller (8)
7 (Spanish) holiday, celebration (6)
13 An enforced demand (8)
15 (Am. Indian) conference (6)
16 Chide (6)
18 (Spanish) snooze (6)
21 Resonant sound; pivoted spar (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 468

ACROSS: 6 Kleptomaniac 7 Caller 8 Inward 9 Kilo 10 Preacher 12 Handicap 16 Tout 18 Bottle 20 Isolde 21 Know the score

DOWN: 1 Feel-good 2 Stir up 3 Empire 4 Anew 5 Faerie 6 Khaki 11 Cotton on 13 Amount 14 Creche 15 Prissy 17 Undue 19 Town

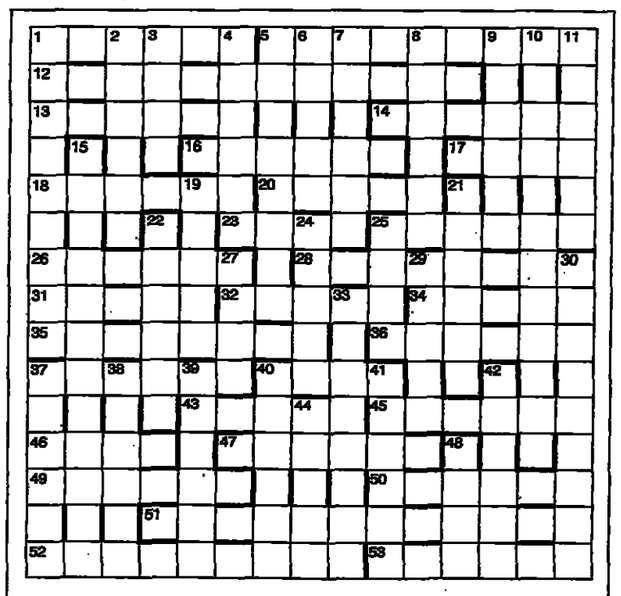
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No. 3305: Sketch upon Grid F Law

Letters appearing in solutions to clues are restricted to those found in a phrase (9,9), in which there are no repetitions; all other letters are superfluous, and it is wisest to ignore *all* occurrences of these (and punctuation). In addition, there are places in the grid where crossing letters in across and down lights fail to agree: each light has one such "defect" for each letter ignored in its clue. So as not to cloud the issue, entrants are asked to draw a symbol (with one stroke of the pen for each different defect in the grid) in each such place instead of entering either letter, and also to deduce the phrase using the defects and write it on the line under the grid. It is suggested that those unsure of the symbol should shade the affected areas first, although this is not essential. The setter hopes to find lots of correct "solves"!

Across
1 Slow past enthrals one, since present ... (6)
5 ... hurried condition's surrounded with old irony, first of all (9)
12 Surrogate parent's wrong to feel sorrow for intruding (12)
13 Out of pity, fellow is falling for Shakespeare (6)
14 Bunion causes person to turn to sister (6)
16 Marches, with signs of hesitation, at knife-point (6)
17 Lance with trace of use replacing a new pike (4)
18 Prisoner's so jocular, it's said - dines in carefree fashion (6)
20 Little people delve in cuttings (5)
23 A success (Polish) - no loss, and with a zloty of interest (4)
25 First 1 turned to Saint, as one engaged in detection (6)
26 Increasing weight - give up holding it in (6)
28 Plaits tied with intertwining bends (8)
31 Canadians quit - it's vain without Australian to lead (5)
32 A genus of trees out of the East (5)
34 Console girl, taking care of jinx (5)
35 Adolescent crushes are gentle? No hint of blandness! (8)
36 Struck edgy leg glance (6)
37 One's gripped with desire to eat what's unfit, such as sweet-gale and loosestrife (6)
40 Lives containing touch of grandeur, perhaps? Hey! (4)
43 Scold up north in Jarrow, reaching a good distance, one hears (5)
45 Poetic chants concerning 'wool', 'toe', 'nose of Turk' - spells of the greatest magic (6)
46 Crafts twisted corn-stalks (not South Wales!) (4)
47 'Left, right' entering collapsed old span bridges (6)
49 Squit turns hand to Indian lunch (6)
50 Student replaces last of quinine, ordered as 'drug of plant origin' (6)
51 One officer rationed firing of other ranks (12)
52 Note — with a hint of recklessness, croquet's endless, intricate, and is, in short, enchanting (9)
53 Indicator shows engineer is turning right (6)

Down
1 Designer jargon - high tech's current, inside *and* outside (9)
2 Confront steep rises en route to apex (6)
3 Tall and slender dog produced a shudder (4)
4 Old source of sailors' riches? That's uncertain (6)
5 Doctor's assistant treated derm and flesh (8)
6 Pilasters on either side of door are zante with heart of oak, prior to mending (5)
7 Stiff brush has caught hair - look out (6)
8 At nine, mother nature causes such thoughts (6)
9 'Quant's staggering' = 'Pole causes wonder' (6)
10 Affected hairdresser plied tool with golden tip first when well-heeled entered (12)
11 Planted in gardens, earth-nuts wither (6)
15 In nature, it's charged? No! (12)
19 Plant's topped and upended — judder produces this drink (5)
21 In outskirts of Lanark, Scots lad wheezled — the weed (6)
22 Ravin would spoil this fare, we hear — select cut (6)
24 For instance, Faust, Orlando are stolid, uphill works (5)
25 Eastern ruler has reduced hot Zone (capital zeta) (4)
27 A hedge starts over, then there's splashy finish — a ditch (4)
29 Collectorate's quiet leader interrupting discussion (5)
30 Pacifier, reapplied, exerts new influence in the end (9)
33 Covers shrouded their old-fashioned electrical apparatus (8)
37 Staple ingredients found here (6)
38 Well-known journo wanders around Thailand (6)
39 Carex of Newcastle area keeps in poisonous alkaloid (6)
40 Indian deer seen at zoo (6)
41 Pieces done on one's own, with indication that repeats are needed, are hard parts (6)
42 Perhaps Scott's sprained ankle — leading pair got hexed earlier (6)
44 'On reflection, bracket tramps in with peer' — who decides? (5)
48 Chinese confessed to raising antelopes (4)



Solution to No. 3302
Cipher by Noggs

B	A	Q	N	Z	G	P	O	W	W	O	W	
Q	U	E	S	T	I	O	N	G	H	M	Z	
O	U	N	A	I	U	L	H	Y	L	H	Y	
V	H	D	A	O	R	I	B	X	H	A	F	
O	V	M	M	Y	C	T	W	A	S	I	Z	
Y	J	Y	W	Y	E	Y	A	Q	O	N	A	
T	M	R	H	A	I	S	Y	T	Q	E	J	
C	H	G	O	O	S	E	B	E	R	R	Y	
H	V	R	M	R	T	C	W	V	Z	A	T	
K	E	B	B	U	C	K	S	H	A	R	J	
X	Y	T	L	K	N	I	G	H	T	L	Y	
C	T	I	E	T	I	O	Z	Y	R	G	P	

The puzzle used 5 different codes. Uncoded forms of answers were:

Code 1: 13a LATHE, 25a ALIBI, 4d JUNIOR, 7d FACADE, 10d BAHUVRIHI, 21d DROGUE.
Code 2: 15a PADDYMELON, 19a EDITOR, 30a MERCER, 3d SNOOD, 23d BIKER, 24d CATTY.
Code 3: 1a VISUAL, 26a BRAID, 31a JANGLY, 2d SOUK, 8d BANZAI, 11d PERCHERON
Code 4: 9a KALUMPIT, 12a PAHOEHOE, 14a SWORN, 16a BEDEL, 1d SKIVIE, 22d BEMBEX
Code 5: 21a CHALK, 29a OPSIMATH, 6d VIHUELA, 19d ARMOUR, 20d SCARPS, 27d BEAN

The winner, who receives book tokens worth £50, is Mr M.J. Thomas, of Cottingham, North Humberside. The runners-up, who win book tokens worth £20, are P M Crowther, of Winchester, Hampshire, and Alan Lye, of Edinburgh.

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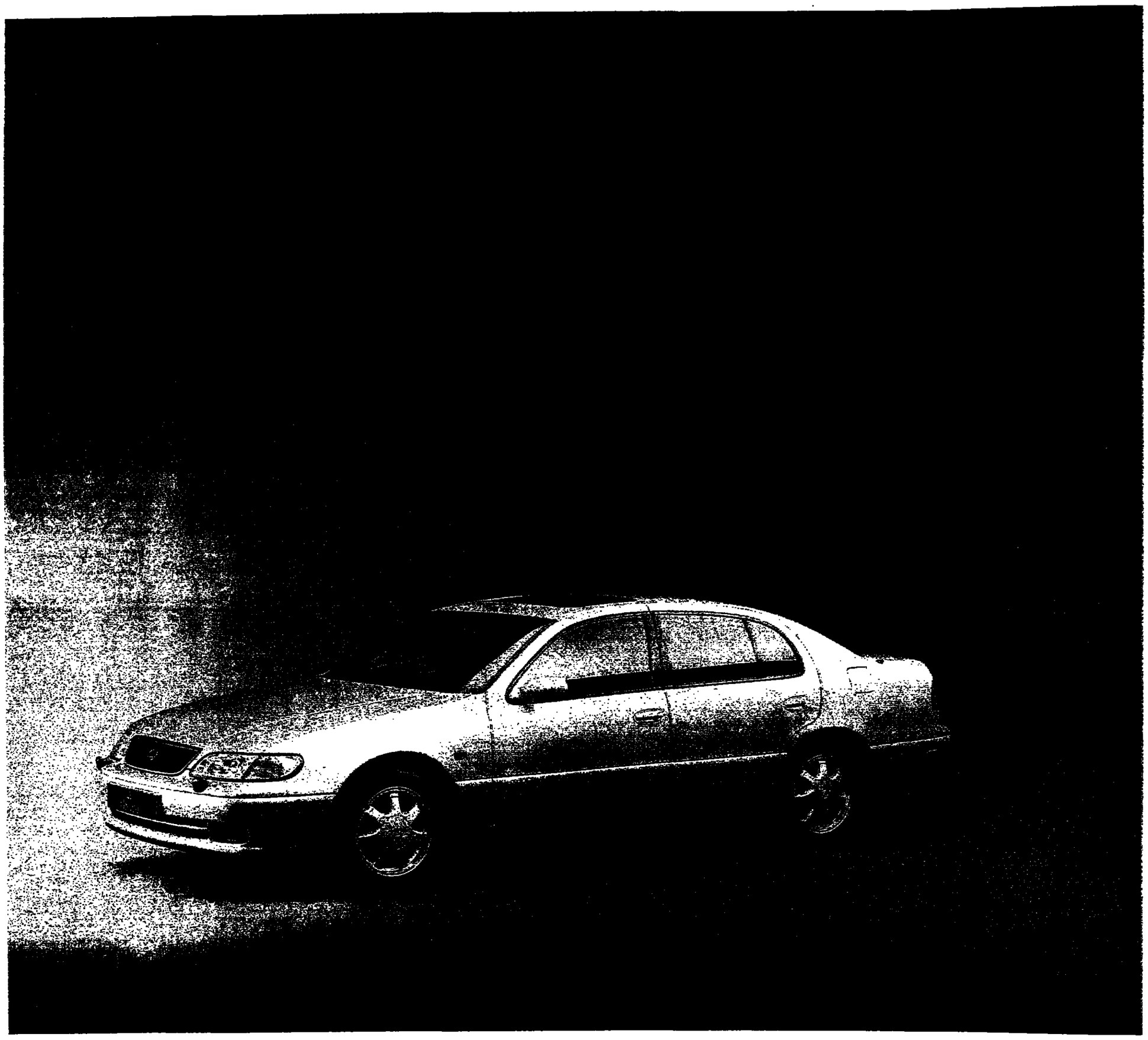


PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will each win £20 book tokens.

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